

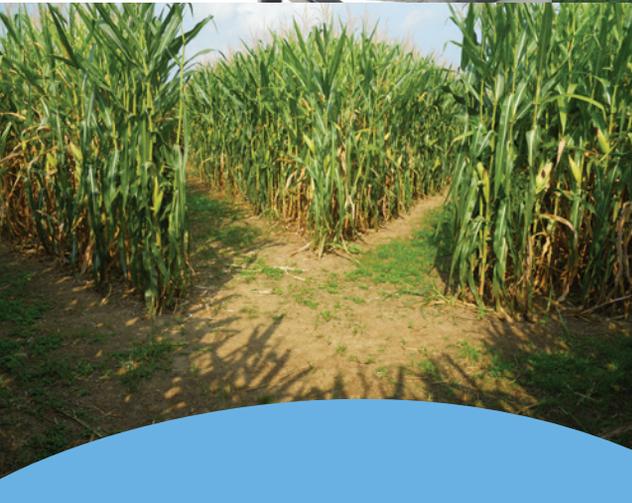


# CITY OF McHenry Illinois

HEART OF THE FOX RIVER

# NEWSLETTER

FALL  
WINTER  
2019



**MAYOR  
CITY CLERK  
ALDERMEN**

- Ward 1
- Ward 2
- Ward 3
- Ward 4
- Ward 5
- Ward 6
- Ward 7

- Wayne S. Jett
- Lynzi Nevitt
  
- Victor A. Santi
- Andrew A. Glab
- Jeffrey A. Schaefer
- Scott L. Curry
- Chad Mihevc
- Patrick Devine
- Geri A. Condon

**MUNICIPAL CENTER HOURS**

Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS**

McHenry City Council meetings are scheduled on the first and third Monday of the month. All meetings begin at 7:00 PM and are held in the Municipal Center Council Chambers. The 2018 Council meeting schedule is posted on the city web site at [www.ci.mchenry.il.us](http://www.ci.mchenry.il.us).

**CITY PHONE NUMBERS**

<b>Municipal Center</b>	815-363-2100
<b>Mayor</b> Wayne S. Jett	815-363-2108
<b>Deputy City Clerk</b> Debra Meadows	815-363-2108
<b>City Administrator</b> Derik Morefield	815-363-2108
<b>Community Development</b>	815-363-2170
Director Ross Polerecky	
<b>Economic Development</b>	815-363-2110
Director Douglas Martin	
<b>Finance</b>	815-363-2100
Director Carolyn Lynch	
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Director</b>	815-363-2160
Bill Hobson	
<b>Public Works</b>	815-363-2186
Director Jon Schmitt	
<b>Police</b>	815-363-2200
Chief John Birk	
Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	815-363-2200
<b>McHenry Township Fire Protection District</b>	
Emergency	911
Non-Emergency	815-385-0075

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**HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

**CITY OF MCHENRY OFFICES  
WILL BE CLOSED ON:**

November 22 & 23, Thanksgiving  
 December 24 & 25, Christmas  
 The Prairieland Disposal schedule will be delayed one day due to holidays.

**Trick or Treat**  
**Wednesday, October 31st**  
**4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**



## Message from Mayor Wayne Jett:

*Fellow Residents of McHenry,*

*It's hard to believe that Summer is winding down and Fall is upon us (with Winter soon to follow)! This has certainly been a busy year for me, both personally and as Mayor of this great community. There are just so many fantastic projects occurring, with more on the horizon, that there isn't enough room to discuss them all here. If you participate in Social Media, I encourage you to "Like" and "Follow" the pages of the City of McHenry, McHenry Police Department, McHenry Parks and Recreation Department, Mayor Wayne Jett – City of McHenry to stay up-to-date on the latest happenings in town. If you don't find what you are looking for there, please visit the city's website at [www.ci.mchenry.il.us](http://www.ci.mchenry.il.us) or of course feel free to contact our friendly staff at the McHenry Municipal Center at 815/363-2100 and they will be glad to assist you.*

*A major community decision that will be coming up in November – November 6th to be exact – is a referendum question on whether or not to expand the McHenry Recreation Center. The expansion would include a two-court gymnasium with elevated walking track, and indoor 25-yard competition pool, warm water therapy pool, splash pad, and outdoor family aquatic facility. For those of you unfamiliar, the existing facility opened in 2016 and was built with funding collected from developers prior to the downturn in the economy. All costs for operating the center are paid from user/member fees. This means that NO tax dollars were used to build, or are used to operate, the facility. Unfortunately, no more developer funding is available and, as such, funds for constructing an expansion to the facility, totaling \$30 million, will have to come from property taxes. While the City Council has the authority to levy such a tax under its Home Rule status, it has chosen to place the question in the hands of the residents of McHenry via a referendum ballot measure on November 6th. Specific information regarding the scope of the proposed expansion and the referendum can be found in this newsletter. My message to you, whether you support the referendum or not, is to exercise your right and ability to vote. Unlike national elections, your vote in local elections and ballot measures has a direct impact on the outcome. Enjoy the remaining days of Summer and have a fantastic rest of the year!*



## Resident Feedback

Submit comments and suggestions on our website or to the Office of the City Administrator, 333 South Green Street, McHenry IL



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# 2018 SUMMER/FALL CONCERT SERIES

## VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, 3400 PEARL ST.

Food & Refreshments Available!



LAST  
CONCERT

**SEPT**

Thurs. 27th  
7:00 PM



### Kevin Purcell & Root Doctors

Acoustic Blues

Sponsored  
by Coldwell Banker

With your continued support, the McHenry Farmers Market is proud to sponsor the Fall Concerts in the Park

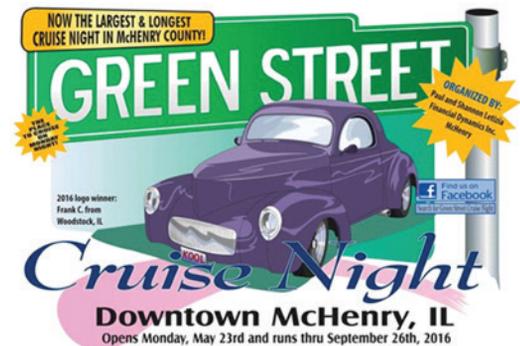


**SEPT**

15th  
1:00-4:00 PM



## GREEN STREET CRUISE NIGHT



Green Street  
Municipal Lot

6-8:30 PM

Organized by  
Letizia Financial

LAST  
CRUISE NIGHT

**SEPT**

25th





## FLAVORS OF FALL TASTE FEST

Saturday, October 6th, 1:00 - 4:30 PM.  
Riverside Drive, Route 120, Pearl Street,  
Court Street, Green Street, Main Street  
Restaurant Specials from \$1 to \$3!  
In-Store Sales!

**OCTOBER**

Saturday 6th  
1:00-4:30 PM

## HAUNTED HAYRIDE AT PETERSEN PARK



The Wonder Lake Water Ski Show Team presents the Haunted Hayride at Petersen Park on Friday October 12, Saturday, October 13, Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20 from 7 to 10:30 p.m. A portion of each admission will be donated to local charities. Refreshments are available and parking is free.  
[www.wonderlakeskiteam.org](http://www.wonderlakeskiteam.org)

**OCTOBER**

12, 13, 19 & 20  
7-10:30 PM

## VETERANS EXPO

This free event produced by the McHenry Area Chamber of Commerce gives veterans and their families the opportunity to see all of the services, products, and promotions that are available to them exclusively

because they have served! We will also have Veteran Affairs professionals on hand to do a check for unused benefits. McHenry VFW (3002 IL Rte. 120) Free Admission.

**NOVEMBER**

8th  
6-8 PM



**NOVEMBER**

Saturday  
17th  
12:30-4:30PM

## DOWNTOWN CHRISTMAS WALK

This annual event features an array of activities for kids including a visit from Santa Claus, Dickens Carolers, free trolley rides and special shopping & savings at participating downtown businesses and much more! The City Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Veterans Memorial Park begins at dusk.



**NOVEMBER**

Sunday  
18th @ 1PM

The parade is staged on Main Street and concludes at Veterans Memorial Park. The "Presentation of Toys" will be made to the U.S. Marine Corps on behalf of the Local Harley Owners Group followed by an appearance by Santa Claus in the park gazebo. The parade will begin at 1:00 PM. More details about these events including a Map & Trolley Guide will be posted on the City of McHenry and Downtown Business Association Facebook pages.



**NOVEMBER**

22nd @ 8AM

## START THANKSGIVING OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT!

8 AM  
McHenry High School  
East Campus



Register Online at [www.mchenryturkeytrot.com](http://www.mchenryturkeytrot.com) or in person on Race Day

## FAQ

### **What type of work requires permits?**

A Building Permit is required for just about every project you complete with tools, except decorating (i.e. painting, trim work, carpet, etc.). The city code defines permits as follows, “a building permit is required prior to starting any construction, alteration, addition, removal, demolition or restoration of any building or structure or its service equipment. If you are uncertain about the necessity of a permit for a particular project, please contact the Community Development Department at 815-363-2170.

### **Why should I get a permit?**

A permit protects the homeowner by ensuring that contractors are following the building codes and safety regulations. Community Development will perform inspections to approve the different phases of your project. Also in order to obtain a permit a contractor must show proof of a state license or registration for roofing, plumbing and electrical. Also, if you intend to sell your home, prospective buyers will want to make sure any work that was done was done safely and correctly and may ask to see proof of permits.

### **Where should a Building permit be displayed?**

The Building Permit placard is required to be placed, whether inside or outside a structure, so that it is viewable from the street. A good place is by the front door.

### **How long will it take to get my permit?**

Permits that require review are, fence, driveway, deck, pool (above & in ground, storable) furnace, air conditioning, or alteration permits etc. The review period can be a few days to 10 business days.

Over the counter permits for roofing, siding, water heater, windows/doors are issued immediately with the license (roofing and water heater-plumbing) and appropriate permit application.

### **What are residential setbacks?**

Setbacks are determined by your zoning district and vary depending on the subdivision you are located in. If you are planning a project such as an addition, shed, pool or fence please contact community development for you specific zoning setback requirements.

### **Is there an ordinance against parking over the sidewalk?**

Yes there is. Parking across the public sidewalk is considered an obstruction and is unlawful.

### **Why should I post a Street number on my home?**

House numbers are not only convenient for finding addresses but necessary for emergency responders to locate those in need.

### **How do I know where my property lines are?**

When a subdivision is developed the corners of each property are marked with a metal stake that is driven into the ground. This stake may be just at the surface or could potentially be buried up to a foot or so in the ground. The best method to find this stake is to use a metal detector. You can refer to you plat of survey for your property to get a general location. You can always contact the Community Development Department at 815-363-2170 for more information on locating your property line.

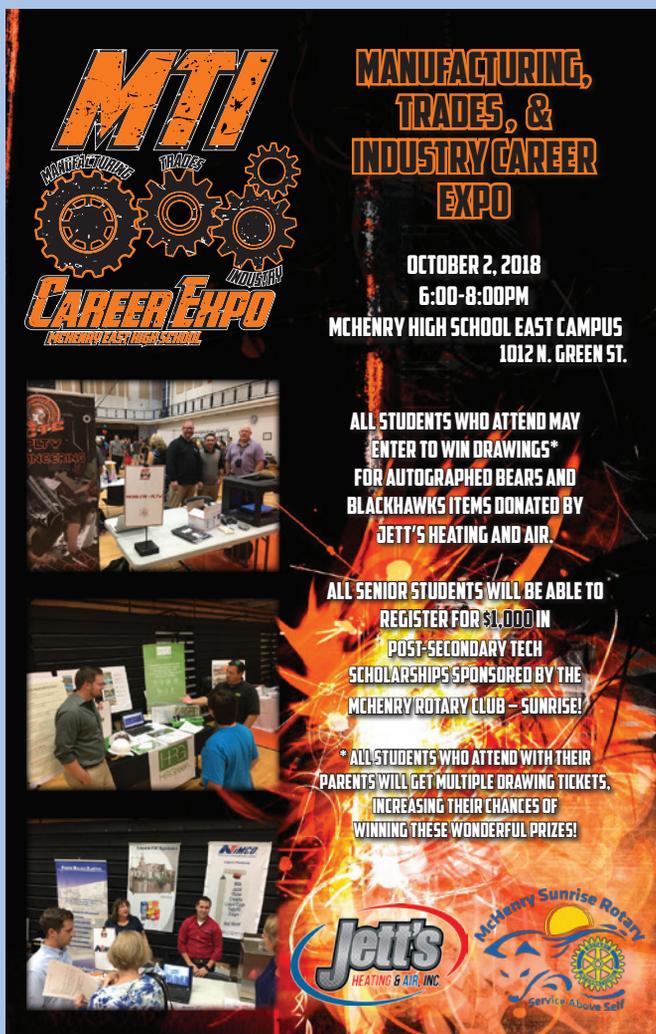


## RECREATIONAL BURNING

A reminder for the upcoming fall season, that the burning of leaves is prohibited in the City of McHenry. Being a good neighbor is more than just helping someone in need. It is also helping to make sure we are respectful to our neighbors. The smoke that is emitted during the burning of leaves can be extremely harmful and dangerous to those people who suffer from health problems, ranging from asthma to chronic heart and lung diseases. The City's burning ordinance prohibits burning leaves. We ask for your assistance in this regard, and thank you in advance for being a respectful neighbor!

## MCHENRY MARKET PULSE

Get the latest updates on new businesses coming to town, community events, and much more on the McHenry Market Pulse facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/mchmarketpulse>



**MTI**  
MANUFACTURING, TRADES, & INDUSTRY  
**CAREER EXPO**  
McHenry East Campus High School

**MANUFACTURING, TRADES, & INDUSTRY CAREER EXPO**

**OCTOBER 2, 2018**  
**6:00-8:00PM**  
**MCHENRY HIGH SCHOOL EAST CAMPUS**  
**1012 N. GREEN ST.**

**ALL STUDENTS WHO ATTEND MAY ENTER TO WIN DRAWINGS\* FOR AUTOGRAPHED BEARS AND BLACKHAWKS ITEMS DONATED BY JETT'S HEATING AND AIR.**

**ALL SENIOR STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO REGISTER FOR \$1,000 IN POST-SECONDARY TECH SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE MCHENRY ROTARY CLUB - SUNRISE!**

**\* ALL STUDENTS WHO ATTEND WITH THEIR PARENTS WILL GET MULTIPLE DRAWING TICKETS, INCREASING THEIR CHANCES OF WINNING THESE WONDERFUL PRIZES!**

**Jett's HEATING & AIR, INC.**  
McHenry Sunrise Rotary  
Service Above Self

### THIRD ANNUAL MANUFACTURING TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MTI) EXPO

OCTOBER 2, 2018 MCHENRY EAST CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL (1012 N GREEN STREET)

FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

The Expo is a collaborative effort of numerous organizations and features 45-50 companies and organizations targeting parents and students junior high through high school to provide a canvas of options available to them after they graduate high school. It's never too early to start planning. The 2017 MTI YouTube video link is: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXfLNWZAju4&list=PLjwpept0Xwd\\_wT3BNxYQLBTB4EnAthw\\_IK](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXfLNWZAju4&list=PLjwpept0Xwd_wT3BNxYQLBTB4EnAthw_IK). All are welcome; the event is free; and more information will be forthcoming in the near future! The following organizations and companies have already committed to attending: Fabrik Molded Plastics, McHenry County College, Black Diamond Plumbing and Mechanical, Jessup Adhesive Coated Films, Plaspros, NIMCO, Plumbers Local 130 UA, Chicago Pipefitters Local Union 597, Carpenters Union, Watlow, ComEd, Althoff Industries, Coilcraft and many more...Don't miss it!

## PROJECTING SIGNS

Projecting signs will start popping-up throughout downtown McHenry. The signs below were made by Crystal Nicole Designs and many businesses have chosen to place these projecting signs in front of their business. This will certainly enhance the downtown areas of the City of McHenry!



## PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION UPDATE TO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

#MCHENRYMATTERS

The City of McHenry Planning and Zoning Commission has been extremely busy updating its existing land use map, formulating a proposed consistency policy, and developing recommended changes to its future land map, which includes a Citywide “McHenry Loop” for walking and biking. The Planning and Zoning Commission wants and needs your help and participation by giving us input on the proposed map which will be displayed at the municipal center and other public locations around the City. Additionally, all meetings are open to the public and attendance and participation is welcome and encouraged.

## PUBLIC ART INSTALLATIONS - MURALS

We have received a few inquiries into murals on buildings and are actively researching the best way to beautify our downtown while respecting individual creativity, rules established in our sign guidelines, and maintenance and upkeep of the designs. We considered having a mural painting event, such as those done by the organization, Walldogs, which brings the community together and gets most of the desired murals up within a period of a week or so.

However, those events are in high demand, take extensive planning sessions, and are booked out for about 2 years. We are working toward establishing guidelines for public art installations that will meet the needs of the City, the building owners, their tenants, and the artists while helping to beautify our city sooner rather than later.

We certainly don't want to allow a painting that is not going to stand up to wind and weather in a year due to use of inferior or improper materials only to have to send out violations notices to owners and tenants because they are peeling or fading and unsightly! By collaborating together we will devise guidelines that work for all the parties concerned. Some samples of public art we hope to look forward to in the very near future can be seen below.

Please contact Dorothy in the Economic Development Department at 815-363-2175 if you are interested in being a part of the planning process. We're excited about more beautiful additions to our hometown!





Below is some exciting news about Metra, commuter rail service, and some changes that will occur over the next two years which will impact City of McHenry residents positively.

METRA MEDIA RELATIONS  
312-322-6776  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Fare zone pilot programs begin July 15**

### **Yearlong test will consolidate outer zones and reassign zones at some stations**

**CHICAGO (July 9, 2018) – Metra on July 15 will begin two yearlong test programs that it hopes will attract new riders by lowering fares from some of its stations and simplifying its fare structure.**

In May, the Metra Board of Directors approved testing several recommendations that emerged from a study of its fare policies. The first was to consolidate its outer zones, thereby capping fares for trips that exceed 45 miles.

The consolidation will merge all stations currently in Zones K through M into Zone J. About 1 percent of Metra riders currently travel beyond Zone J. As of July 15, four Zone K stations (Kenosha, Antioch, McHenry and Woodstock) and one Zone M station (Harvard) will join five existing Zone J stations (Round Lake Beach, Lake Villa, Long Lake, Ingleside and Fox Lake) as one zone. There are currently no Metra stations located in Zone L. The second test program approved by the Board will reassign some stations to different zones to adjust perceived inconsistencies between lines where nearby stations are in different zones. Station reassignments will equalize fares for customers who board at Metra stations on different lines with similar distances to downtown, and may encourage more local use of these stations.

On the Metra Electric Blue Island Branch, Metra's test program will move the Ashland, Racine, West Pullman, Stewart Ridge and State Street stations from Zone D to C. On the Metra Electric mainline, the 83rd Street and 87th Street stations will move from Zone C to B. On the Rock Island Beverly Branch, the 123rd Street Station will move from Zone D to C.

Both pilot programs will be evaluated after a year to determine if they resulted in ridership gains and if the changes should remain in place. Metra plans to test another study recommendation later this year by introducing a one-day pass for unlimited travel between any two zones. The day pass will be available for purchase on the Ventra App only and is expected to be introduced when a new Ventra App is unveiled later this year.

### **About Metra**

Metra is one of the largest and most complex commuter rail systems in North America, serving Cook, DuPage, Will, Lake, Kane and McHenry counties in northeastern Illinois. The agency provides service to and from downtown Chicago with 242 stations over 11 routes totaling nearly 500 route miles and approximately 1,200 miles of track. Metra operates nearly 700 trains and provides nearly 290,000 passenger trips each weekday.

## MCHENRY PARKS & RECREATION FALL TRIPS

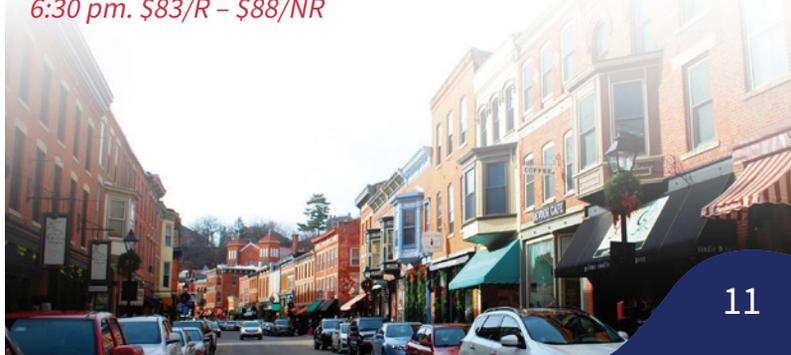
Register in person at McHenry Recreation Center, by mail, by fax at 815-363-3186 or online. All trips depart from McHenry Recreation Center. For more information call 815-363-2160.

**Wrigley Field Tour & Lunch:** Join us as we visit the friendly confines of Wrigley Field. Anticipated non-game day guided tour includes: seating bowl, press box, Budweiser bleachers, visitors' clubhouse and Cubs' dugout. All stops and locations are subject to availability and based on events and activities in the ballpark. Outdoor walking tour (approximately 1 mile) conducted rain or shine. And, Wrigley Field is an active construction site. Please dress and plan accordingly. Prior to the tour we will enjoy salad and pizza bar at Brickhouse. If time allows between lunch and tour, enjoy some Cubs shopping. Transportation via van to Crystal Lake. Motor coach transportation from there to Chicago. Registration deadline Aug 17. Ages 18 & up unless accompanied by an adult. *Thursday, September 13 from 9:00 am – 6:00 pm. Fee: \$80/R – \$85/NR*

**Fair Oaks Farm:** Fair Oaks Farm in Indiana is an escape to the country with acres of great food, learning, fun and an experience you will never forget! Visit the birthing center where you will see a live birth of a cow or pig. Learn about the future of farming, protecting the environment and caring for the animals while ensuring the highest quality products possible. Take a crop tour and learn how the entire facility runs on cow and pig manure! Sustainability is how they operate. During our tour, lunch will be a buffet option of Roasted Pork Loin or Fried Chicken including garlic mashed potatoes, buttered corn, rolls, coffee, tea and a single scoop of ice cream. Our final stop is a visit to the gift shop to purchase some cheese and chocolates for the ride home. Transportation via van to Barrington. Motor coach transportation from there to Fair Oaks Farm. *Registration deadline Sep 9. Ages 18 & up. Thursday, September 20 from 6:30 am – 6:00 pm. Fee: \$99/R – \$104/NR*

**Wisconsin Electric Train & Lunch:** Experience a 14 mile fall trip through the beautiful Wisconsin countryside aboard a historic East Troy Electric Railroad trolley, and learn a bit of history of this 111 year-old rail line at the museum. Schedule includes a stop at Indianhead Park and the Elegant Farmer Depot, where you can purchase an award winning pie baked in a paper bag or many other bakery and market items. Following the train ride will be lunch at the restored 1940's farm home at the Red Geranium Restaurant. Choose from Grilled Chicken Angelina or Black Angus Chopped Steak. A house salad, vegetable and starch, rolls, coffee, tea, lemonade and soda are included with the meal. As we travel home, we will stop at the uniquely interesting Ginger Blossom in Richmond, Illinois, to browse the ethnic and traditional crafts, rugs, furniture, clothing and antiques from all over the world! *Registration deadline Sep 11. Ages 18 & up. Thursday, October 11 from 8:45 am – 4:00 pm. Fee: \$62/R – \$67/NR*

**Galena Shopping, Lunch & Tour:** Explore the beauty and history of Galena, Illinois! You'll love browsing through Galena's 19th-century downtown with more than 100 storefronts featuring clothing, jewelry, collectibles, specialty items, gifts and more. After shopping, take a break and enjoy lunch at the Courtyard Restaurant at the DeSoto House Hotel, Illinois' oldest operating hotel. Choose from Grilled or Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Deluxe Club Sandwich or Baby Spinach Salad. After lunch and before we leave, let the Galena Trolley take you around town for a non-stop 1 hour tour of this historic town. Transportation via van to Crystal Lake. Motor coach transportation from there to Galena. *Registration deadline Oct 10. Ages 18 & up. Wednesday, October 24 from 7:00 am – 6:30 pm. \$83/R – \$88/NR*



## Parks & Recreation

**Jumer's Casino & John Deere:** Jumer's Casino in Rock Island is the place to be for exciting Las Vegas style gambling, including slots, table games, poker, and gaming machines. Receive \$5 in slot play and \$5 coupon for buffet. After gambling, get into the past, present, and future of John Deere at the John Deere Pavilion. Check out some of the largest, most technologically-advanced farm, construction, and forestry equipment in the world. Then head over to the John Deere Store, next to the Pavilion, for John Deere merchandise including, hats, shirts, toys, books, videos and collectibles. There's something for everyone! Transportation via van to Crystal Lake. Motor coach transportation from there to Rock Island. *Registration deadline Oct 24. Ages 21 & up. Wednesday, November 7 from 6:00 am – 7:30 pm. \$59/R – \$63/NR*



**Holiday Shopping & Light Show:** Have fun visiting several specialty shops! Our first stop is Widmer's Cheese and Confections by Joel: short video, free samples and Q&A with cheese makers. Chocolate is a specialty for blind entrepreneur, Joel Bernhard who started making candy back in 1999. Our next stop is Fond du Lac: lunch at Red Cabin on Green Acres and shopping at Kristmas Kringle Shoppe. The Kristmas Kringle Shoppe was started in 1978 by Grace and Jerry Mielke to provide a special environment to offer unique Christmas ornaments and collectibles celebrating Christmas 360 days of the year. Our last stop is the Rotary Botanical Gardens Holiday Light Show in

Janesville. Transportation via van to Crystal Lake. Motor coach transportation from there to Wisconsin. *Registration deadline Nov 9. Ages 18 & up. Wednesday, December 5 from 6:45 am – 8:00 pm. \$69/R – \$74/NR*

**High Tea & Joffrey Ballet Nutcracker:** Experience elegant High Tea at the Drake Hotel in festive downtown Chicago as you enjoy live holiday musical entertainment, finger sandwiches, pastries and an assortment of very fine teas. Following High Tea, spend time holiday shopping along the Magnificent Mile. Then we'll meet again to continue the holiday festivities at the ballet. You'll be mesmerized by the boldly reimagined Nutcracker with Tchaikovsky's glorious score played live by the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra and performed by the Joffrey Ballet Company. Transportation via van to Barrington. Motor coach transportation from there to Chicago. *Registration deadline Nov 25. Ages 14 & up. Thursday, December 13 from 1:00 pm – 11:00 pm. \$143/R – \$148/NR*

**Drury Lane: Disney's Beauty & The Beast:** Based on the beloved Academy Award-winning Disney film, this nine-time Tony nominated musical continues to win the hearts of people all over the globe. Trapped in her provincial life, a young and intelligent beauty risks everything to become the heroine of her own story and break a wicked spell imprisoning a castle of enchanted misfits and a terrifying beast. For lunch choose from Seared Chicken, Roast Turkey with Stuffing or 8 Finger Cavatelli. Transportation via recreation van. *Registration deadline Dec 5. Ages 21 & up. Wednesday, December 19 from 10:00 am – 5:30pm. \$80/R – \$85/NR*



**McHenry Police is proud to welcome two new officers to our department.**



Ofc. Mader

Ofc. Peter Mader was sworn in on Monday, May 14th, 2018. Peter is a Prairie Ridge High School graduate. He also attended McHenry County College and Illinois State University. Peter has served as a police officer with the Island Lake Police Department since 2016.

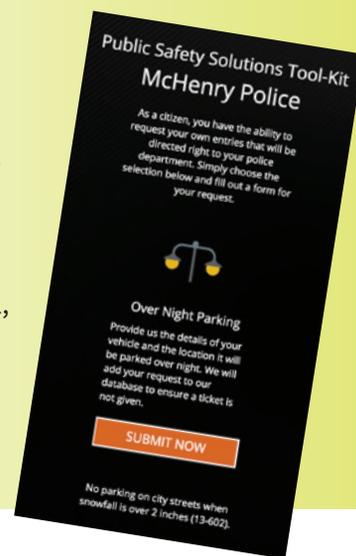


Ofc. Pena

Ofc. Luis Pena was sworn in Friday, June 22nd, 2018. Luis is an Antioch Community High School and Western Illinois University graduate. Luis has served as a Community Service Officer with the Antioch Police Department. He has also served as a police officer with the Cook County Forest Preserve District and most recently the Chicago Police Department.

## WWW.PARKINGREQUEST.COM

In the Spring/Summer Newsletter we introduced WWW.ParkingRequest.COM for overnight parking requests. This system makes it easier for 100s of car owners to enter their vehicles in for overnight parking each week. It saves time and the call. This season, we would like to update our database for business owners in the City of McHenry. As businesses change and owner's information changes, we aren't always able to keep accurate records of key holder's information. The same company that has successfully streamlined our parking requests created a self-serving database for business owners. The program can remind you, via email, to provide accurate information in our system. Accurate information is important for the police department in case of emergency. If we need to contact a business owner in a timely manner, this program will let us quickly and easily get in touch with you. Business owners, look for a mailer coming out soon to help us create our new database.



“Coffee with a Cop” and “Coffee with the Chief” have both been met with positive reviews. Having a relaxed setting to speak with officers and the Chief about ongoing events/incidents in town promotes a good relationship between officers and the community. We thank those who have come out to our events and encourage everyone to take advantage of the opportunity to join us. Keep an eye on our events section on our Facebook Page @McHenryPD for the next coffee event.



The 2018/2019 school year at district 15 will incorporate a new anti-bullying/internet safety presentation hosted by the McHenry Police Department. The information provided will help keep students and parents as safe as they can be online and provide information on the damaging effects of bullying. Look for a letter from the school in partnership for the McHenry Police Department.



### Election/ Voter's Registration

The November 6th General Election will be here before you know it, so remember to vote and become involved in your community! YOU CAN make a difference! Visit the McHenry County Clerk's web page for more information:

[www.co.mchenry.il.us/countyclerk.com](http://www.co.mchenry.il.us/countyclerk.com).

The 2019 Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 2019. Officers to be nominated are four Aldermen serving Wards two, four, six and seven. Candidate Petition Packets are now available at City Hall. However, the petitions may NOT be circulated prior to September 18, 2018. Residents wanting to register to vote can do so at the City Hall, 333 South Green Street during regular office hours. A list of other locations can be found on the McHenry County Clerk's website.

### 2018 FALL HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM

The City will begin its fall hydrant flushing operation throughout the City on September 17th, for a two week period ending September 28th. Should a delay arise, the flushing operation will be completed the week of October 1, 2018. Hydrant flushing is necessary to clean and maintain the water distribution system. During the flushing period water can become discolored. If this occurs, run your cold water tap for a few minutes until the water clears. If this does not correct the problem, wait approximately an hour and try again. Do not run your hot water until the cold water tap has cleared. This discoloration is not hazardous to human consumption; however, clothing can become stained during laundering. **Should you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186.**



### WATER METER CHANGE OUT PROGRAM

The City of McHenry is currently conducting a meter change out program. Some of the meter reading infrastructure has reached its useful life and the batteries used within the equipment are beginning to fail. Residences that are affected by this program are located east of Route 31, including east of the River, and the Pebble Creek, Millstream, Timber Ridge, Oaks of McHenry, and Riverside Hollow subdivisions will be receiving door hangers. If you receive a door hanger, please make every attempt to schedule an appointment within five days of receiving the door hanger. Water Division personnel have been changing meters in the Winding Creek, Whispering Oaks, Cooney Heights, Lakeland Park, Legend Lakes, Boone Creek and Park Ridge Estates subdivisions and the areas will soon be completed. **Please call the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186 to set up an appointment.**



## POOL DRAINING TIPS TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY

With fall right around the corner, numerous McHenry area residents will be preparing their swimming pools for the winter by draining the water from their pools. When winterizing or draining pools for repairs, the water must be checked for chemicals and additives before draining. The following tips are provided for you to properly drain pool water in order to protect the water resources in your community.

Whenever possible, it is best to allow the water to drain onto your landscape. This recycles your pool water, conserves irrigation water, and avoids the environmental risks associated with draining your pool to the street. When pool water is drained to the street, it can carry pollutants such as grease, sediment, trash, harmful additives and chemicals into the storm drain, nearest creek, pond or the Fox River. If the water is not properly treated to remove these chemical pollutants prior to draining, they can cause further damage to the health of our waterways and to the plants and animals that live there. For chlorine pools, chlorine levels must be lowered to less than 1 part per million prior to draining. This can be done naturally, by simply allowing the pool water to sit in the sun for a minimum of three days. Alternatively, de-chlorination kits can be purchased at pool supply stores. These kits have the tools you need to reach the appropriate chlorine levels before draining your pool to the curb and gutter. Prior to draining the water to the street, residents are asked to sweep the curb and gutter between the discharge point from their yard to the storm drain downhill from their home. This will remove any pollutants from the gutter that may be carried into the storm drain.

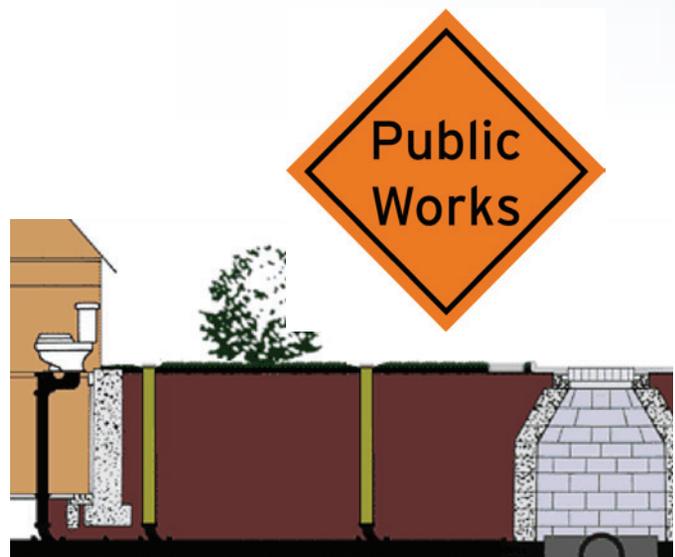


**By taking these simple steps, you can enjoy your pool, and protect the environment for the community.**

## EXPERIENCING A SEWER BACKUP? CALL PUBLIC WORKS FIRST

If you are experiencing a sewer backup, contact the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186 during the hours of 7:00 am to 3:30 pm or after 3:30 pm, call the non-emergency police phone number at 815-363-2200, before you call a plumber. Public Works personnel will be sent to your location to assess the problem. If the blockage is in the City's sewer main line, the City will take corrective action as quickly as possible. If the blockage is in your line (that portion from the building to the sewer main line), you will be requested to call a plumber to clear your building's service. In this instance, all necessary repairs and restoration are the responsibility of the homeowner.

**If you have any questions, need additional details or assistance, call 815-363-2186.**



## 2018 YARDWASTE PROGRAMS

**Curbside Collection** will end on December 7, 2018. Residents may use either 2-ply, 50# weight kraft paper bags or garbage type cans which do not exceed 33 gallons in size with a maximum weight of 50 lbs per container. The containers should be marked with a large X. No plastic bags are allowed. Containers must have a pre-paid yard waste sticker affixed to each bag or can. Stickers may be purchased at the Municipal Center or any location that sells refuse stickers. Branches must be bundled to a maximum length of 5 feet, a maximum of 2 feet in diameter and a maximum of 50 pounds per bundle and must also have a pre-paid yard waste sticker attached to each bundle.

- Acceptable Materials – grass clippings, leaves, branches 3” in diameter or less, brush, garden plants, flowers, weeds, bark pieces, pine cones.
- Materials Not Allowed – tree trunks & stumps, branches larger than 3” in diameter, fence posts, railroad ties, firewood, rocks, sod or dirt.
- To make the containers more visible, please mark containers with a large YW or X.

**Drop-Off Facility** is open on Saturdays from 7 AM until noon until December 8, 2018. The facility is located at Knox Park and can be accessed from Bank Drive. There is no charge for this service to residents but the vehicle used to transport the material must display a current city vehicle sticker.

- Acceptable Materials – grass clippings, leaves, branches 3” in diameter or less, brush, garden plants, flowers, weeds, bark pieces, pine cones.
- Branches must be bundled to a maximum of 2 feet in diameter and a maximum of 50 pounds per bundle.
- Branches must be bundled to a maximum length of 4 feet, a maximum.
- Materials Not Allowed – tree trunks & stumps, branches larger than 3” in diameter, fence posts, railroad ties, firewood, rocks, sod or dirt.

## 2018 FALL BRUSH PICKUP PROGRAM

The City of McHenry’s Fall Brush Pickup Program will begin on October 1, 2018 for the entire City. All residents must have their brush out by 7:00 a.m. on October 1, 2018. Crews will visit each street once and continue until they have gone through the entire City. No callbacks will be made.

**Note:** This program is for tree material only; yard waste belongs in the Yard Waste Collection Program provided by the City of McHenry’s waste hauler. When placing branches at the curb, make sure they are not in the street and that all branches are as long as possible and no more than 5 inches in diameter. Residents are advised to place their brush on the parkway parallel to the street no later than October 1st at 7:00 a.m. This program is intended for larger tree branches resulting from trimming or storm damage. No stumps or roots will be taken. The program is for residential properties only.



## FALL LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

The City's Refuse and Recycling Program provides for a special leaf collection program beginning October 2nd and ending December 8th. Prairieland Disposal will perform this service utilizing specially designed vacuum equipment. Collections will generally be made the same day as refuse collections. Schedules may be delayed during periods of heavy rain.

Rake leaves to be collected into piles alongside the roadway or between the roadway and sidewalk within 4 feet of roadway edge or curbing. Do not rake leaves onto the roadway. Do not place piles of leaves in drainage ditches.

In addition, please note that cars cannot be parked in the roadway when collections are made. The contractor must have clear access to the curb line or roadside to properly collect leaves, thank you for your cooperation.



The City will pick up storm damage only if it has fallen as the result of a “High Wind Warning” storm event as described by the National Weather Service Chicago Weather Forecast Office. This weather is described as an event that has sustained winds of 40 mph or greater and gusts of 58 mph or greater. If a weather event has winds at or in excess of these speeds, residents may call Public Works within one week to make an arrangement to have the branches picked up.

Residents can visit the National Weather Service's website at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov) to find out whether an event qualifies as a “High Wind Warning” or has wind speeds at or greater than mentioned at any time. The page that opens will indicate if a “High Wind Warning” was issued. This is how the City will determine whether an event is a “storm.”

If the event was not a “storm,” residents who do not have a landscape service should follow the Prairieland Disposal guidelines for Yardwaste Pickup or Yardwaste Drop-off.

### *Prairieland Guidelines Are As Follows:*

#### **YARDWASTE PICK-UP:**

- Branches must be bundled to a maximum length of 4 feet, a maximum of 2 feet in diameter and a maximum of 50 pounds per bundle and must also have a pre-paid yardwaste sticker attached to each bundle.
- This program begins the first full week of April and ends the first full week of December on your regular garbage collection day.

#### **YARDWASTE DROP-OFF:**

- All branches must be bundled to a maximum length of 4 feet, a maximum of 2 feet in diameter and a maximum of 50 pounds per bundle.
- This program is held on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. until noon beginning the first full of week of April and ending in the first full week of December.

**For more information please contact the Public Works Department at (815) 363-2186.**

# FROZEN PIPES

## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN ...

when the outdoor temperature drops below freezing. Each year the freezing and thawing temperatures can cause water main breaks. If you should see water coming out of the ground that is not normal for the area, or feel that something else might be happening with regard to water breaks, please call the following number for assistance:

**MONDAY – FRIDAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 7 AM & 3:30 PM CALL 815-363-2186  
AFTER HOURS, HOLIDAYS AND WEEKENDS CALL 815-363-2200.**

At times, it may become necessary to shut off water service to residents in order to repair a watermain break. When possible, residents are notified prior to having their water turned off. The Public Works' crews will work around the clock to repair the break and get your water back in service. Areas around a watermain break can freeze during cold weather, so proceed with caution on roadways and sidewalks. If icy conditions exist, please call the phone number listed above. Excavation is required to repair the watermain break. If you have an excavated area near your home, do not attempt to fill in the site. The City will leave the site in a safe manner and will return to repair the area in the spring when the ground has thawed. Should the restored area around a previous break settle, please call for a crew to come out.

## COLD WEATHER HINTS – FROZEN PIPES

Don't let cold weather catch you unprepared. Every winter, many homeowners face the expense and inconvenience of frozen water pipes. You can cross that off your list of winter worries by taking a few simple precautions.

1. Disconnect and drain outdoor hoses. Detaching the hose allows water to drain from the pipe. Otherwise a single hard, overnight freeze can burst either the faucet or the pipe it's connected to.
2. Insulate pipes or faucets in unheated areas. If you have pipelines in an unheated garage or cold crawl space under the house, wrap the water pipes before temperatures plummet. Hardware or building supply stores will have good pipe wrapping materials available.
3. Seal off access doors, air vents and cracks. Repair broken basement windows. Winter winds whistling through overlooked openings can quickly freeze exposed water pipes. But don't plug air vents your furnace or water heater needs for good combustion.
4. Find the master shutoff. It may be near the water heater or the washing machine. More likely it's where the water line comes into your house from the street. If a pipe bursts anywhere in the house – kitchen, bath, basement or crawl space – this valve turns it off. So find it now and paint it a bright color or hang a tag on it. Try your valve to make sure it works, and does what you expect it to do. Be sure everyone in the family knows where it is and what it does.

## WHAT IF IT'S TOO LATE?

What if you wake up one day to find the pipes are frozen anyway? During an extended cold spell, it could happen despite precautions. Do you have the plumber's telephone number handy? Do you have your water supplier's phone number? If you live in McHenry Shores most likely you have a private water supplier. Write it down now before you need it in an emergency. If you think you know where the freeze-up occurred and want to try thawing it yourself, do not under any circumstances use a torch with an open flame! The whole house could catch fire. Also, overheating a single spot can burst the pipe. Heating a soldered joint could allow it to leak or come completely apart. The easiest tool is probably a hair dryer with a low heat setting. Wave the warm air back and forth along the pipe, not on one spot. If you don't have a hair dryer, you can wrap the frozen section with rags or towels and pour hot water over them. It's messy, but it works. Be careful because the pipe may already be broken. It's not leaking because the water is frozen. But when you thaw it out, water could come gushing out. Be ready to run for the master shutoff valve if necessary. The main thing is to take precautions before winter sets in.



## 2018 E-WASTE COLLECTION

Beginning on January 1, 2012, the Illinois Electronic Products Recycling and Reuse Act banned certain types of electronics from being disposed in Illinois landfills such as televisions, monitors, computers, laptops, electronic mice and many other common electronic items you may have in your home.

Prairieland Disposal will remove e-waste at the curb on your regular pickup day beginning September 24th and ending September 28th 2018. Residents are limited to five (5) electronic items per pickup. Out of those five (5) items, only one (1) may be a television or one (1) computer monitor.

Please call Prairieland Disposal at 847-381-9300 or the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186 if you have any questions.

A complete list of electronics that are banned from landfills is available online from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency website at: [www.epa.illinois.gov](http://www.epa.illinois.gov) Click on the Citizen's tab, on the drop-down list click on land pollution and waste disposal.



## PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

### PEARL STREET/LINCOLN ROAD:

A major rehabilitation of Pearl Street and Lincoln Road between Illinois Route 31 and McHenry Middle School will be completed this fall. A key addition of this project is the construction of a multi-use path from the east side of the Pearl Street Bridge to the entrance of McHenry Middle School. This project will also include the installation of sanitary sewer service stubs on the sanitary sewer main that runs along Lincoln Road east of the Fox River. Other improvements will be bridge deck patching on the Pearl Street Bridge, curb and sidewalk replacements, American Disabilities Act compliant sidewalk ramps, roadway resurfacing, and necessary storm sewer replacements. Work began on this project in July and is anticipated to be completed this fall.

### TIMOTHY LANE AND CLOVER AVENUE WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT

The water main on Timothy Lane and Clover Avenue between Dale Avenue and Green Street is being replaced this year. This project will increase the size of the existing water main from 4" to 8" which will improve currently insufficient fire flow and water quality. Other associated improvements include minor drainage improvements, concrete curb and gutter, and roadway resurfacing. Work will begin in July and is scheduled to be completed in October.

### GREEN STREET BRIDGE REHABILITATION

The Green Street Bridge will be rehabilitated in summer and fall of this year. Work will include the removal and replacement of concrete sidewalks, rehangng and lowering of water main, rehabilitation and resetting of bridge railing, structural concrete repairs, and the addition of a new concrete wearing surface. Work is anticipated to begin after Fiesta Days and conclude this fall.

## WINTER POLICY REMINDERS

### Mailbox Policy

The homeowner will be responsible for the repair and replacement of the mailbox and post if it is damaged or knocked down by the snow coming off of the plow, (the windrow) and not from a direct hit from the City plow. If your mailbox is damaged by a direct hit from the City plow:

- Mailboxes will be replaced or repaired with a standard rural steel mailbox unit and posts will be replaced with a 4x4 wooden post.
- The City is not responsible for any cost of repair or replacement in excess of \$50.00 for damage to any mailbox. All cost reimbursements of a damaged mailbox will be made only with the presentation of sales receipts for materials used in such repair and replacement.
- All labor or cost of labor to install the mailbox will be the responsibility of the owner of the mailbox.
- This ordinance can be found in the City of McHenry's Municipal Code, Section 1, Chapter 21, Article VII, Sec. 21-120 "Damaged Mailboxes". It can be accessed on the City of McHenry's website: <http://www.ci.mchenry.il.us>

### Snow Removal Policy

When snow is being removed from the driveways and sidewalks, it is unlawful for anyone to deposit or cause to be deposited any snow and/or ice from private property on or against a fire hydrant, or on any public sidewalk, public roadway or loading and unloading areas of a public transportation system, including the windrowing of snow and ice upon the curbs of public streets, roadways, and highways.

This ordinance can be found in the City of McHenry's Municipal Code, Section 1, Chapter 21, Article VI, Sec. 21-113 "Deposits Restricted". It can be accessed on the City of McHenry's website: <http://www.ci.mchenry.il.us>



## 2019 CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP PROGRAM

Prairieland Disposal will begin its annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program on January 7, 2019 and conclude January 18, 2019. Generally, trees will be removed on the resident's regular pick-up day. Trees must be free of decorations, wire and lights and may not be placed in plastic bags. Wreaths and evergreen garland will not be accepted. Trees will be recycled into wood chips. **If you have any questions, call Prairieland Disposal at 847-381-9300 or the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186.**



## HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING PROGRAM 2018-19



Prairieland Disposal's Holiday Light Recycling Program will begin December 3, 2018 and end January 31, 2019. There will be two locations available Monday through Friday. One of the drop-off sites will be located at the Public Works Facility, 1415 Industrial Drive from 7:00 am through 3:30 pm. The other drop-off site will be at the Municipal Center, 333 S. Green Street from 8:00 am through 5:00 pm. Acceptable lights are mini-lights (Italian lights), C7 lights, C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, extension cords etc. All colors and lengths will be accepted. Garland, live greens, wreaths or other non-recyclable are not accepted in the program. **If you have any questions, call Prairieland Disposal at 847-381-9300 or the Public Works Department at 815-363-2186.**