

VILLAGE VIEW



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 [willowbrookil.org](https://www.willowbrookil.org)

NOVEMBER 2023



Mayor's Message

Mayor Frank Trilla

As we transition into the late fall and winter season, we reflect on the Village of Willowbrook's summer event offerings, such as Neighborhood Night events, Movie Night in the Park, Glow Rider and many others! We hope that all community members were able to take part in one of our many fantastic programs and activities. Although summer has ended, the Village has numerous events and programs planned for the winter and holiday season. To stay informed, please follow our Parks & Recreation Department on Facebook at [@VillageofWillowbrookParksandRec](https://www.facebook.com/VillageofWillowbrookParksandRec).

We encourage everyone aged 55 and over to take part in our active adult program events. The Village continues to offer a robust selection with something for everyone. For further details on these events and activities, please visit our Village website at [willowbrookil.org](https://www.willowbrookil.org).

We invite all residents, their friends, and families to attend the Light Up the Night Holiday Event, taking place on December 9, from 5:30-8:00 pm at Borse Memorial Community Park, located at 208 Midway Drive.

This event will serve as a fantastic kick-off to the holiday season, featuring a tree-lighting ceremony, carolers, appearances from Santa, and a grand finale drone show! Additionally, this year, the event will feature the Light Up the Night Craft Fair, with a diverse assortment of vendors selling holiday wares. Vendor spots are still available for those who wish to showcase their crafting abilities, and interested parties should contact Dustin Kleefisch, Director of Parks & Recreation, at dkleefisch@willowbrook.il.us for more information.

Finally, be sure to check out the Capital Improvement Program page of this newsletter, the Village has several major projects that are planned and ongoing, such as the redevelopment of Midway and Borse Memorial Community Parks. We want to ensure that residents are informed and able to communicate with Village staff regarding any questions, suggestions, or concerns you may have.

We encourage you to take the time to read the entirety of this newsletter, which highlights the Village's accomplishments over the past year in each of our departments. We hope you enjoy reading the November 2023 edition of the Village View!

Village of
WILLOWBROOK

MAYOR
FRANK A. TRILLA

VILLAGE CLERK
DEBORAH A. HAHN

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
MARK ASTRELLA
SUE BERGLUND
UMBERTO DAVI

MICHAEL MISTELE
GAYLE NEAL
GREGORY RUFFOLO

FALL REMINDERS

VILLAGE WIDE STREET SWEEPING

Please refrain from parking on all curbed Village streets November 20 - 22 from 7 AM - 4 PM.

FALL VILLAGE TREE PLANTING

If you had a tree planted this fall, please keep it watered until the first snow.



WINTER REMINDERS

During heavy snowfall, the Public Works Crews work around the clock to keep the roads safe. Please be aware of these vital winter reminders to ensure we can get our Village roads clear and safe for our community as soon as possible.

Snow and ice issues on roads not maintained by the Village are the responsibility of the County or State. Please report issues directly to the managing governing body.

- **County Roads:** 63rd, 75th, Plainfield, Madison
- **State Roads:** Route 83/Kingery Hwy, Frontage Rd (Midway Dr to Madison St.)

Attention Snow Birds

Planning on leaving for warmer weather? If a pipe bursts or leaks while you are away, it could cause significant damage. Consider completely turning off the water supply if you will be away for an extended period of time. Contact the Village Public Works Department at 630-323-8215 for more information.

KEEP ROADS CLEAR

- On-street parking is prohibited any time after 1" of snowfall.
- Remove empty refuse containers from the curb as soon as possible to avoid contact with the snowplows.
- Please clear the storm drain covers, sidewalks, and fire hydrants near your property.
- Report inaccessible fire hydrants or snow piles obstructing drivers' views; please report the location by calling 630-920-2238 or clicking "Request for Service" on the Village website.
- It is against the Village Code to blow or place snow into the street; this causes hazardous conditions.

IT TAKES A "VILLAGE"

- Plowing and snow placement on neighborhood streets, especially cul-de-sacs, becomes problematic as temperatures drop. The Village will clear snow from curbs; however, residents should expect to have to remove some of the snow from mailbox areas. In addition, the plow drivers cannot avoid plowing snow onto driveway aprons.
- If your mailbox is damaged during snow removal, please call 630-920-2238 or report it on the website; the Village will deliver a temporary mailbox to you. Repairs to your mailbox will be completed when the weather clears.

HOLIDAY SEASON SAFETY

Police Department



Watch out for Pickpockets & Identity Theft While Holiday Shopping.

- Do not carry your social security card.
- Don't get distracted while in crowded areas, it leaves your personal belongings at risk.
- Limit the use of your cell phone in public.



LAUREN KASPER
CHIEF OF POLICE
lkaspar@willowbrook.il.us



Personal Safety and Auto Break-Ins

- Park in well-lit areas with frequent travel.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages when walking alone.
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Leave nothing visible in your car when parked outside.
- Keep packages in the truck.



Credit Card Safety

- Shop only on secure websites online.
- Do not respond to emails asking for your personal or credit card information.
- Check your credit card and bank statements regularly and watch for fraudulent use.



Appointment of New Deputy Chief

Deputy Chief Gerard Wodka



In 2022, the Willowbrook Police Department underwent a department reorganization and added a second Deputy Chief position. With the retirement of Chief Robert Schaller and promotion of Chief Lauren Kaspar in May of 2023, a vacancy was created in the position of Deputy Chief of Operations.

After a rigorous recruitment and interview process, the Department appointed Gerard Wodka to the position of Deputy Chief of Operations. Deputy Chief Wodka has over 28 years of dedicated experience in public service. Prior to his retirement, Deputy Chief Wodka served the Palos Heights Police Department for over 17 years retiring with the rank of Sergeant. Deputy Chief Wodka was sworn in on October 23rd, 2023. The Village looks forward to the experience he will bring to the Department.

Annual CALEA Accreditation



In October of 2023, the Willowbrook Police Department participated in their year two web-based assessment with the Commission of Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA). The web-based assessment is completed annually and requires opening up our policies, procedures, and practices to outside oversight with a CALEA Compliance Service Member. This is done through remote examination and virtual interview of staff. The annual web-based assessments are used in conjunction with the on-site assessment with CALEA Assessor on the fourth year to determine compliance with CALEA standards to achieve a reaccreditation award.

For more information on our CALEA national accreditation, please visit the village website at <https://www.willowbrookil.org/78/Police>.

Community Development



MICHAEL KROL
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
mkrol@willowbrook.il.us

GET INVOLVED IN WILLOWBROOK'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

The Village is working with Houseal Lavigne on updating Willowbrook's Comprehensive Plan, a roadmap for the Village to direct investment and development over the next 20 years. The Comprehensive Plan will describe future goals and objectives for investment and development and include an action plan on how to achieve them.

On our dedicated website, view the map social, a fun and engaging online tool where you can map issues and opportunities in Willowbrook!

The Community Questionnaire asks you questions about important issues and opportunities facing Willowbrook that the Comprehensive plan should address.

For more information about the Willowbrook Comprehensive Plan, visit our dedicated website:

<https://village-of-willowbrook-il-comprehensive-plan-hlplanning.hub.arcgis.com/>

ATTENTION Residents living in a rental unit or apartment complex: The 2018 International Property Maintenance Code and International Residential Code state that the minimum required temperature is 68°F during winter. Contact the Village with any questions or concerns.



OPEN BURN POLICY

DuPage County and the municipalities within the Tri-State Fire Protection District, including the Village of Willowbrook, have adopted ordinances that prohibit various forms of open burning of leaves, sticks, logs, branches, and other landscape waste originating on the owner's property.

PERMITS

The mission of the Community Development Department is to provide the community with comprehensive service in the areas of building and property maintenance code compliance, building permits, plan review, and resident concerns in an efficient manner to provide and ensure public safety for the community.

NEED A PERMIT?

The Community Development Department is available Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm, to discuss your project and help ensure the project is done right.
Please call us at 630-920-2240.

WINTER IS COMING

Check your home's heating and air conditioning system.

- Replace your furnace filter every three months.
- **Reminder:** A permit is required to replace your furnace.

Caulk your windows and seal exterior doors.

- Most home repair stores stock weather stripping and window seal caulk
- **Reminder:** A permit is required to replace your windows and front door.

Remove all hoses from spigots to prevent pipes freezing and bursting. Check ALL drainage systems.

Shut off the water supply to irrigation systems to protect against freezing pipes

Clean your gutters to prevent ice and snow damming, which can lead cause leaks and water damage to your home.

If possible, trim back tree branches that overhang the house

Test and clean the dust off your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

Clean your fireplace by removing soot and debris from the firebox and chimney before the first ignition.

Check the expiration date on your home fire extinguishers and replace as needed.

Train all household members on using a fire extinguisher properly and **NEVER** use water to put out candle wax or oil fires.



VILLAGE ADMINISTRATION A YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 PROJECT & CAPITAL INVESTMENT RECAP

CHERRY TREE LANE SIDEWALK

Work began on August 1st to complete a 1000-foot-long stretch of new sidewalk from 7715 Cherry Tree Lane to the intersection of Sheridan Drive and Cherry Tree Lane. This project was completed by Falco's Landscaping. The project was completed in seven days and came in \$8,000 under budget.

WILLOW MANOR STORM DESIGN

The Willow Manor subdivision, located between Rt. 83 and Madison Street just north of Plainfield Road has had ongoing standing water/drainage issues within the Village rights-of-way. Staff hired Novotny Engineering to complete a storm water management plan of this area and design an improvement plan. The survey has been completed and staff is reviewing improvement plan options.

STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS

Twelve streetlights along Adams Street, south of Plainfield Road are scheduled to be upgraded from vapor halogen streetlights to LED. This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of December.

EXECUTIVE DRIVE STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

Executive Drive was constructed in the early 1970s. Excess storm water is stored on top of the existing roadway, which makes that street impassable for days and affects business owners and their customers. A redevelopment plan was created by Burke Engineering. The Village hosted a bid opening on June 20th, but bids came in higher than anticipated. The Village will be releasing this bid by the end of the year and anticipate lower-cost submittals. This project has been moved to the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

MIDWAY PARK UPGRADES

Midway Park upgrades began in August. The park started as an open lot and will be furnished with a permeable paver parking lot, an ice/roller hockey rink, whiffle ball field, an exercise court, a bathroom and pavilion structure, and a perimeter walking path.

BORSE MEMORIAL COMMUNITY PARK PHASE I

Borse Memorial Community Park will be enhanced over the next three years. Phase I consists of constructing a permeable paver parking lot on the corner of 75th Street and Eleanor Place and replacing critical drainage lines throughout the park.

MORE IN 2024...

The Village looks forward to next year and a new set of projects to continuously improve our systems, operations, and offerings to the Village.

For more information, visit willowbrookil.org.



Light Up **THE NIGHT**

December 9
5:30-8:00 pm

at the Borse Memorial
Community Park

WELCOME TO THE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

In mid-summer, the Village welcomed Teresa Mrozik to the team as the new Superintendent of Senior Services. Teresa joins us after serving as the Director of Parks and Recreation for the Village of North Riverside. Teresa brings a wealth of experience and is already on her way to building the program and providing a variety of programming opportunities for everyone.

The Village of Willowbrook offers a wide variety of Active Adult Programming for residents over 55. We welcome all to participate in events and programs ranging from afternoon lunches, Bingo, long distance and local trips, to attending plays and shows. Visit the Village website to view our active adult newsletter, "The Scoop" and join our [Village of Willowbrook & Burr Ridge Park District Active Adults Facebook Group](#) to stay connected.

THE SCOOP

Did you know that the Village has an entire recreation guide dedicated to programs, events, and travel just for our fabulous 55+ community? Our Scoop comes out every few months and it's easy to get on 'the list'! Call Teresa at (630) 920-2243 to get your copy today.

NEW EXCITING PROGRAMS

Programs for our seasoned citizens are growing! We now offer extended travel, free movies with a meal, special events and more. In the upcoming edition of the Scoop, you will find programs/trips for the guys, adventures to new places, portrayals, and more. There is truly something for everyone!



Pictured: Parks & Recreation Scary Stories event at Willow Pond. This family-friendly event was held on October 20th. It was fun for the residents to come together to celebrate Halloween as a community. It was the perfect night to gather around the fire, toast some marshmallows, and get into the Halloween spirit.

Santa **SLEIGH VISITS** *Santa comes to your door!*

December 18-22
5:00-8:00 pm

Elf **TRYOUTS**

December 15
6-7pm

at the Community
Resource Center

New Year's Eve **BABY BASH**

December 29
11:00am-1:00pm

at the Community
Resource Center



Village of
WILLOWBROOK

LIGHT UP *The Night*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Borse Memorial Community Park | 5:30 - 8 PM

Join the Village of Willowbrook as we transform Borse Memorial Community Park into a Winter Wonderland for one night only. Enjoy holiday caroling performances, ice sculpture demonstrations, a petting zoo, ornament craft stations, face painting, hot chocolate, giveaways and prizes. This year, we are very excited to add a Craft Fair component to the event. The Craft Fair will feature local Artisans and Crafters!

Santa and his Elves will also be stopping by to see our community "light up the night" which will feature a drone show finale. We hope you and your family will join us for this fantastic annual event.

Cost: \$5.00 per child

Register at **willowbrookil.org**



Village of
WILLOWBROOK
835 Midway Dr. | Willowbrook, IL 60527

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- Light Up the Night Holiday Event
Saturday, December 9, from 5:30-8pm
at Borse Memorial Community Park
- Stay Safe this Winter | Snow and Cold
Weather Reminders



Resident Resource **FREQUENT CALL LIST**

VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK

- Village Hall Administration - (630) 323-8215
Hours of Operation - Monday through Friday 8:30am-4:30pm
- Police Department Administration - (630) 325-2802

DOWNERS GROVE TOWNSHIP

- Main Line - (630) 719-6600
- Assessor's Office - (630) 719-6630

DUPAGE COUNTY

- Main Line - (630) 407-6500
- Public Works - (630) 407-6800
- Clerk's Office - (630) 407-5500

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS

- Tri-State Fire Protection District - (630) 323-2171
- Pleasantview Fire Protection District - (630) 352-9229

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

- Main Line - (800) 452-IDOT (4368)

UTILITIES

- Groot Industries, Inc. - (888) 485-0900
- Nicor Gas - (800) 642-6748 (Nicor4U)
- ComEd - (800) 334-7661 (EDISON-1)
- AT&T Internet - (800) 288-2020
- Comcast Xfinity Internet - (855) 870-1311

WILLBROOK & BURR RIDGE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- Main Line (630) 654-0909



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