

Village of Orchard Park

2020 NEWSLETTER



Board of Trustees

Mayor Jo Ann Litwin Clinton

Chief Executive Officer
Budget Director
Personnel Officer
Business Community Liaison
Town Board Liaison
Insurance
Railroad Bridge Painting Project

Trustee Matthew J. Hartung

Deputy Mayor
Public Works
Public Safety
Planning Board Liaison
Street Lights, Sidewalks & Signals
Youth Liaison

Trustee Francis T. Hogenkamp

Beautification
NYSEG
Senior Projects
State & County Liaison
Town Tree Conservancy Liaison
WNY Railway Restoration Project
Rails to Trails Liaison

Trustee James C. Cosgrove

Solid Waste & Recycling
Revenue from outside the Village
Franchises
Policy and Procedure Review
Website Review

Trustee Lauren A. Kaczor

Master Plan Update
Building Department Liaison
Village Code Review
Zoning Board Liaison
Village Events & Celebrations
Youth Court Liaison

*The Village Board meetings are held most 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7 pm
(see our website for complete schedule)*

A note from the mayor...

Our Village Board has two new members, James C. Cosgrove and Lauren A. Kaczor. Trustee Fuhrman and McNatty both resigned. Jim is an attorney specializing in no fault, personal injury, estates, wills and criminal law. His law practice is located in Buffalo. Lauren is an Engineer with an MBA who works for a local manufacturing company.

2020 has not turned out as we thought. No One could imagine what the world has endured in the last few months and what continues today. These events will change our lives forever. There are markers in time, the last one we encountered was 9/11. We often say before or after 9/11. Now we will say before the pandemic or after. But when will the after be? That is the scary part. We are all on this roller coaster that has no end. When is the after coming? When will things start to return to the new normal?

We were on PAUSE, now we have begun our process of openings. However, we are still under many restrictions that unfortunately will impact our Village summer events. All decisions made by the Village will be made with the safety of our residents and employees in the forefront.

Our Village website is a great source of information. We update this almost daily. There are many links that can be found here with a wealth of information.

We are coming up on a milestone for the Village our 100th anniversary. We will be kicking this event off with a New Year's Eve Ball Drop to ring in 2021.

Stay Strong, Stay positive we will get through this.

Best Regards,
Jo Ann Litwin Clinton, Mayor

Mary Beth Jensen, Village Clerk-Treasurer
Emery Wittmeyer, Manager of Public Works
Marcia Nickerson, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
John Gullo, Code Enforcement Officer
Christine Hanavan, Part-Time Clerk, ZBA and Planning Board Secretary

Department of Public Works 662-3866

As we begin the Summer season, the Department of Public Works Department is already very busy keeping our Village beautiful. There are many new faces you will see as they work throughout the Village this summer. Our new Crew Chief is John Chrynowicz. He is a great asset to our staff and knowledgeable in several areas. We have also added Josh Robel and Mike Murray to our staff.

We have some very large projects that the crew will be undertaking this year. The first is the North East parking lot in the Village. When you travel into the Village you will see the incredible work done in this area. The next project will be the replacement of all the decorative street lights. The department does an amazing job and makes our Village a charming and beautiful place.

The Public Works Department is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and can be contacted at 662-3866; after hours contact the Orchard Park Police at 662-6444 and they will contact the proper personnel.

The two most visible services provided by the DPW are the curb side collection of brush and leaves and snowplowing of streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. There are a couple of guidelines regarding brush and leaf collection that assist us in being more efficient. Please stack all brush in the same direction with the cut ends facing the street. In the fall, leaves must be placed in separate piles free of sticks to allow us to use the vacuum machines for collection.

The Village restricts on-street parking from November 1 until April 1 to provide snowplowing service.

The department engages in many beautification projects throughout the Village. Last year we upgraded our four Village entrance signs and their associated landscape beds. With the assistance of the Orchard Park Garden Club, we plant and maintain the hanging baskets and flower boxes; this program is funded through donations of local businesses and residents. If you would like to contribute, please contact the Village Office at 662-9327.

The other primary function of the department is infrastructure management. We have three major infrastructure systems that we are constantly monitoring and assessing. The most visible system is the 12.5 mile road network the Village owns. We have been utilizing a pavement preservation program to determine what road projects are necessary and completed. Last year we were able to mill and repave Stonehenge Drive. We were also able to improve the landscapes of several cul-de-sacs with the materials donated to us from Paramount Pictures.

The water distribution system is made of 14.5 miles of pipe that supply safe drinking water to our residents twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. The New York Department of Health regulates our activities to ensure the safety of our water. We perform an annual interview with our representative from the Health Department to document that all requirements were completed for the previous year and determine what testing is required for the upcoming year. The Public Works Department employs three individuals that maintain a class D water license with New York State. For more information on the water quality, see the attached Annual Water Quality Report.

The third major network we maintain is the storm sewer conveyance system; it is made up of 17.25 miles of pipe and 683 drainage structures. This system carries clean water from our streets and parking lots to local water ways; there is no treatment of the water, and therefore pollution is a major concern. One source of pollution is sediment. To help prevent sediment buildup, we annually clean 20% of our system and remove the sediment.

We strive to improve the services provided and encourage feedback. Please contact us with both positive and negative comments so that we may advance the department.

Building Department 662-9327

To protect all residents and property owners, Building Permits are required to assure compliance with the NYS Fire Prevention and Uniform Building Code and the Village of Orchard Park Municipal Code. Information and Permit applications can be found on our website (www.orchardparkvillage.org, Department Tab - Code Enforcement). Here are the frequently asked questions.

A Building Permit is required (HOME AND BUSINESS):

- For all new construction or additions
- Plumbing changes and additions
- When an electrical circuit is installed or extended.
- When a generator is installed
- When remodeling includes the removal or relocation of walls; or affects the structure of a building
- When the structure has the interior stripped down to studs
- When the required fire safety features in an existing building are affected by repairs, remodeling or alterations
- For a shed, fence, or new paved surfaces

A Building Permit is required (BUSINESS):

- When the use of a building is changed (i.e. a retail store to a doctor's office)
- Interior Changes
- **ALL SIGNS**

A Building Permit is required (HOME):

- When a solid fuel device, such as a wood burning stove or fireplace is installed or repaired
- **All swimming pools that can contain 18" or more of water. This includes inflatable pools.**

Other Information:

- There are other requirements for permits and we refer you to the website or to call the office if you have any questions.
- House numbers are required to be placed on all houses in the Village of Orchard Park. Numbers must be at least 4" high and visible from the street.
- **Recreational fires are permitted. Such fires must burn only seasoned firewood must be a minimum of 25 ft. from structures and must NOT produce smoke that is offensive or objectionable. A method of extinguishing the fire must be available. Such fires must be constantly attended until extinguished. Open burning of combustibles other than seasoned firewood is PROHIBITED.**

As of February 22, 2010, Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors are required:

1. Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story including basements.
2. Within each dwelling unit or sleeping unit, on each story where a carbon monoxide source is located.
3. Where the dwelling unit has appliances, devices or systems that may emit carbon monoxide or has an attached garage.

John Gullo, Village Code Enforcement Officer, will answer questions and help with the permit process. He is available Monday-Friday 8:30am-10:30am or by appointment.

Garbage and Recycling 1-800-333-6590

Waste Management is contracted to provide garbage and recycling collection for all one, two and three family homes in the Village. All Garbage/Trash must be contained in provided carts. If you have additional trash that cannot fit into the new bin, garbage tags can be purchased in the Village Office. A list of garbage and recycling guidelines can be found on the Village website (www.orchardparkvillage.org) or picked up at the Village Office.

Our collection day is FRIDAY - all refuse and recycling must be within five feet of the roadside by 6:30 am. Bulk items will be collected the first Friday of every month (2 item limit). Tags can be purchased in the Village office for additional bulk items. Waste Management observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day; collection will be on Saturday that week (UNLESS THE HOLIDAY FALLS ON A SUNDAY!).

Recycling will be collected every other Friday. A schedule is available in the Village Office or on our website. Additional recycle carts are available at no charge - please call the Village Office.

Electronics that cannot be disposed of with curbside garbage pickup (i.e.: televisions and microwaves) can be dropped off at Modern Disposal's Facility at 3675 Jeffrey Blvd in Blasdel (824-3767). Call for TV disposal fees. Best Buy Stores recycle certain electronic and computer equipment (visit their website at www.bestbuy.com for items they currently recycle).

For hazardous household waste disposal, call 858-6370.

RECYCLING DO'S

- DO recycle all empty plastic bottles, cans, paper and cardboard.
- DO keep foods and liquids out of recycling.
- DO keep plastic bags out of recycling.

RECYCLING DON'TS

- DON'T bag your recyclables - plastic bags and film get tangled in the machinery.
- DON'T include food-soiled items - they can turn an entire load of recycling into trash.
- DON'T add sharp or dangerous materials like needles and electronics - they can cause injury to workers.
- DON'T toss in "tanglers" like rubber hoses and wires - they can shut down an entire recycling center!
- DON'T include bulky items like propane tanks or construction debris.

Planning Board

The dedicated volunteers who presently serve on the Planning Board are Chairman Gunner Tronolone, Dale Pyne, Myrna Woodard, Stephen Bray, Krista Ehlert and alternate Monica Bruce. Christine Hanavan is the Secretary. The board reviews permit applications in residential and non-residential zones, all referrals from the Zoning Board of Appeals, and any other permits or matters referred by the Code Enforcement Officer or the Village Board. All permit applications must be submitted to the Village Office no later than noon on the Wednesday, one week prior to the meeting date. The Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board Secretary can be reached at the Village Office and will be happy to assist you through the process. Meetings are held in the Municipal Center the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm as needed.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is also comprised of dedicated volunteers: Chairman Steve Snyder, Gary Phillips, Bill Riter, Scott Hartung, Kevin Moran and Alternate David Obrochta. Christine Hanavan is the Secretary. The Village Code Enforcement Officer reviews all permit applications to determine if variances to the Village's Municipal Code are needed. If a variance is required, the applicant completes a Zoning Board of Appeals application and a public hearing is scheduled. A public hearing is published in the Orchard Park Bee and notices are sent to all property owners within 200' of the subject property. At the public hearing the ZBA reviews the application and interested parties are given the opportunity to express concerns. The ZBA, which must follow specific criteria for granting any variance, then votes on the requested variance. Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday after the first Tuesday of every month at 7pm as needed.

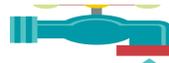
DRIVEWAY PLOWING & SIDEWALK SAFETY REGULATIONS

Village residents and/or property owners must not permit snow from private property to be placed or stored on a Village Right of Way (ROW) or street. Due to the severity of previous winters, and on several occasions, the DPW has had to remove snow placed in the ROW in order for the street to be properly plowed. To date, this snow removal has been completed at Village expense, but in the future, this work may be charged to the property owner. If notified, property owners will be given an opportunity to remove the snow; if the snow is not removed, it will be removed by the Village and the cost will be added to the property tax bill. To prevent occurrences such as this, we recommend the property owners discuss this law with the person or contractor that may place snow on a ROW. Keep in mind that the ROW includes sidewalks and extends beyond the street pavement.

The law provides that sidewalks must be maintained in a safe condition and that responsibility for any needed repairs can rest with the owner of property that adjoins the sidewalk. If the Village receives notice that a sidewalk is unsafe the Village will undertake an inspection of the sidewalk and will then notify the landowner of the needed repairs and a timetable for the repairs. If the repairs are not undertaken, the Village may perform the repairs and assess the cost to the adjoining landowner.

Beautification

Through the enthusiastic efforts of Mary Ann Schubert, Sandra Patrick, the Orchard Park Garden Club members, financial contributions, and the commitment of the Village DPW, we enjoy hanging flower baskets and planter boxes. Anyone wishing to make a tax deductible donation to Beautify Orchard Park II (BOP II) may do so through the Village Office.



Annual Water Quality Report

Enclosed please find a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report, complying with State & Federal regulations. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Additional information is available in the Village Office, or on the internet at www.ecwa.org

POLICE—FIRE—EMERGENCY 911

NON EMERGENCY 662-6444

The police station is located in the back of the Municipal Center. Police Chief Joseph Wehrfritz and his very competent detectives and police officers are always available to serve and protect us. The police department uses an enhanced 911 emergency calling system that helps locate the origin of any call received. The appropriate police, fire, or medical emergency personnel are then sent in response. Fingerprinting, by appointment, is available for adoptions, naturalization, securities licenses, liquor licenses and numerous other reasons, to all Orchard Park Town and Village residents at no charge.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Be smart. Take Part. Create your Family Emergency Communication Plan. Creating your Family Emergency Communication Plan starts with one simple question: "What if?"

"What if something happens and I'm not with my family?" "Will I be able to reach them?" "How will I know they are safe?" "How can I let them know I'm OK?" During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family.

Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household - including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers - know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency.

Planning starts with three easy steps:

1. Collect Information
 2. Share Information.
 3. Practice your communication plan
- For more information www.ready.gov/make-a-plan.

Selling a House in the Village?

A sewer inspection must be done on any property changing ownership in the Village of Orchard Park. The cost of the inspection is \$75.00, payable to "Village of Orchard Park". Please contact the Village Office when selling a house and we will contact Erie County Sewer to schedule the inspection. Once completed, we will issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Village Justice Court 662-6415

The Village Court is in session the first Thursday of each month at 3 pm in the court room of the Municipal Center. The Village Court is represented by Village Justice Daniel B. Kane, Prosecutor Nancy Hart, and Philip M. Marshall, the Village Attorney.

Post Office 662-4110

The Orchard Park Post Office is located on School Street between South Buffalo Street and South Lincoln Avenue.

The hours of operation are:

Monday thru Friday 8:30am — 5:00pm
Saturday 8:30am — 1:00pm

Library 662-9851

4570 South Buffalo Street

The Orchard Park Library is part of the Erie County Library System. It is located at the corner of Highland Avenue and South Buffalo Street.

RECREATION

Yates Park—For information regarding shelter rentals, call 662-6450.

Chestnut Ridge Park 662-3290
Shelters 858-8355

Senior Citizens

Community Activity Center 662-6452
Meals on Wheels 662-7178
Senior Citizen Van 662-8378
Senior Nutrition 662-8378

Youth

Boys & Girls Club 662-1941
Town Recreation 662-6450
YMCA - Southwestern Blvd. 674-9622

ORCHARD PARK CENTRAL SCHOOLS

www.opschools.org

General Information 209-6200
4040 Baker Road
South Davis Elementary 209-6246
55 South Davis Street
Eggert Elementary 209-6215
3580 Eggert Road
Windom Elementary 209-6279
3870 Sheldon Road
Ellicott Elementary 209-6278
5180 Ellicott Road
Middle School 209-6220
60 S Lincoln Avenue
High School 209-6242
4040 Baker Road
Community Education 209-6295
2240 Southwestern Blvd.

Churches and Organizations

A complete listing of area churches appears in our local phone book "Who's Who in Orchard Park". This book is prepared as a yearly fundraiser by the local Boy Scout Troops. Copies can be purchased in the Village Office or at various local businesses.

A list of community organizations and phone numbers appear on the bulletin board in the main hall of the Municipal Center.

Village Events

Needless to say, this year is not going to be packed with festivals and gatherings.

The Village events for the summer have been cancelled due to the Corona virus.



Please check our Village website at orchardparkvillage.org and choose the Events Calendar to see what is still happening or cancelled.



Things You Can Do To Prevent Stormwater Pollution

- Use Your Runoff: Direct downspouts onto your lawn or garden or install a rain barrel.
- Scoop the Poop: Remove pet waste promptly to keep bacteria out of our waterways.
- Dispose Waste Properly: If it's not rain or snowmelt, it should not be in a storm sewer -never dispose chemicals, paint, or treated pool/spa water in storm drains/ditches.
- Keep a Healthy Lawn: Aerate and mow at a higher setting. A healthy, vigorous lawn needs less watering and fewer chemicals.
- Adopt a Storm Drain: Keep neighborhood storm drains and ditches free of leaves, seeds and grass clippings.

This Newsletter is enclosed with your Village Tax Bill "by order of the Orchard Park Village Board of Trustees."

UTILITIES

Water	Village of OP	662-9327
Sewer	Erie County	823-8188
Electric	NYSEG	1-800-572-1111 service 1-800-572-1131 outages
Gas	National Fuel	686-6123 service 1-800-444-3130 emergency