



NEW LENOX

VILLAGER

HOMWOOD DISPOSAL GARBAGE SERVICE UPDATE



Starting October 1st, 2024, red refuse stickers are no longer required for residents with a 65-gallon or 95-gallon cart. Additional material placed at the curb in personal garbage cans or bags will be collected at no extra charge. Additional cans or bags must not exceed 32 gallons in size. All residents with a 35-gallon cart will continue to place one red sticker on each item outside the cart. Refuse stickers for all 35-gallon cart households, senior and non-senior, will increase to \$2.70 per sticker and are available at Berkot's, Jewel, and Village Hall.

The new pricing will be, 95-gallon cart \$24.68 per month, 65-gallon cart \$22.28 per month, 35-gallon cart \$21.00 per month, 35-gallon senior cart \$9.36 per month. Residents who wish to receive a larger cart may switch cart sizes at no additional charge. To do so, please visit www.mydisposal.com or call Homewood Disposal at (708) 798-1004. Please note, over the next few years, pricing for the 65-gallon cart service will increase to be the same as the 95-gallon cart service.

Residents may continue to place one bulk item out for collection each week with no sticker. Examples of bulk items are sofas, mattresses, ovens, rolls of carpets, and desks. No TVs, computers, or other electronics are accepted curbside; however, you can call Homewood Disposal for a special electronics pick-up or if the bulk item cannot be lifted safely by one driver. The changes only impact the garbage service, meaning the recycling and yard waste programs are unchanged.

PUMPKIN SMASH

Pumpkin Smash returns to the Village Commons on Saturday, November 2nd, offering an environmentally friendly (not to mention FUN!) way to dispose of



your pumpkins after Halloween. From 9:00 am until noon, residents can bring their pumpkins to the Commons to drop off for composting. By composting pumpkins instead of sending them to landfills, we reduce the amount of waste in landfills, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce the amount of water in landfills, where it has to be monitored to avoid groundwater contamination. Residents may simply drop their pumpkins off or may stick around to try out some of the fun ways we have for their pumpkins to be smashed. Find full details about Pumpkin Smash by visiting newlenox.net/events.

SCARECROW STROLL



The Village of New Lenox is proud to partner with the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce

to offer Scarecrow Stroll in the Village Commons for its fifth year! Local businesses and organizations are invited to create a scarecrow to be included on a path throughout the Commons. Scarecrow Stroll is a standing public display, available for free viewing at any time from October 14th through November 1st. Organizations that are interested in creating a display may visit newlenox.net/events no later than October 2nd to register for a space. For more information, please visit newlenox.net/events or call (815) 462-6438.

Village Officials

Timothy Baldermann / Mayor
Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk
Katie Christopherson / Trustee
Amy Gugliuzza / Trustee
Keith Madsen / Trustee
Lindsay Scalise / Trustee
David Smith / Trustee
Jim Wilson / Trustee
Kurt T. Carroll / Village Administrator

Inside This Issue

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Garbage Service Update | 1 |
| Pumpkin Smash | 1 |
| Scarecrow Stroll | 1 |
| Leaf Collection | 2 |
| Branch Pick Up | 2 |
| Early Voting | 2 |
| Christmas in the Commons | 2 |
| Fraud & Extortion Crimes | 3 |
| NL Police Sergeant | 3 |
| Hometown Hero Banners | 3 |
| Water-Sewer Bill Payment Options | 3 |
| Open Now | 4 |
| Coming Soon | 4 |
| Relocations | 4 |
| New Owners | 4 |
| Restaurant Week | 4 |

Village Meeting Dates

Village Board Meetings: Second and fourth Monday of each month at 7pm
Council of the Whole Meetings: Third Monday of each month at 7pm
Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals: First and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

All meetings are held in the Village Council Chambers at the Village Hall. Agendas for Village Board and Plan Commission meetings are posted at the Village Hall and the Village's website, www.newlenox.net/agenda

Village Board meetings air on New Lenox Channel 6 starting the day after the meeting.

New Lenox Village Hall

1 Veterans Parkway
New Lenox, IL 60451
815.462.6400
Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 8:30am-5:00pm

www.newlenox.net

FALL LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

The Village of New Lenox provides a Residential Leaf Vacuuming Program every fall. Vacuuming consists of multiple rotations of the entire Village for 9 continuous weeks. The 2024 leaf vacuuming program will run weather permitting, beginning Monday, October 7th through November 30th. The goal is to collect the leaves at least once a week. The length of each rotation is based on the volume of leaves crews encounter and some rotations may take more than one week to complete. Weather and equipment function also comes into play. Due to these factors, pick-up dates in your area will vary each week, therefore no 'scheduled' pickups are possible. Unlike the Branch Pick-Up Program, you do **NOT** have to call the Public Works Department for this service.



Please follow these helpful guidelines to ensure that this service will operate quickly, safely, and efficiently:

- Place leaves on the parkway parallel to the street and immediately behind the curb or the edge of the pavement. Leaves **must not** be placed in the street or in the curb/gutter. If the leaves are placed in the street or gutter, they have a greater chance of blowing and will obstruct the flow of stormwater and cause street flooding during rain events.
- **Do not** include any debris such as garden materials, brush, dead potted plants, cans, paper, bottles, etc. These foreign materials can cause damage to leaf collection personnel and equipment.
- **Do not** place leaves behind or around obstacles such as: parked cars, trees, mailboxes, fire hydrants, streetlights, etc.

Reasons for not picking up leaves could include: leaves placed too far from the parkway, there are branches, twigs, or dead potted plants mixed in, parked car(s) blocking the area where the leaves were placed, inclement weather, equipment failure, or crews are inundated and the removal process is going slow. Alternative Options are also encouraged. In some neighborhoods where trees are not mature, utilizing a mulching lawn mower adds the leaves back into the lawn, providing nutrients to the soil. Homewood Disposal will also pick up leaves placed in the Kraft-type paper bags **free of charge (NO stickers required)**. This service is offered from October 23rd through November 30th; whichever dates fall on your regularly scheduled garbage pick-up day the bags will be picked up - Leaves Only.

In addition to the free leaf collection for bagged leaves, the Village offers ten free yard-waste bags per fall for our senior citizens households which may be picked up at the Village Hall in early October. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please call the Public Works Department at (815) 215-4800

BRANCH PICK-UP WRAP-UP

The Village of New Lenox Public Works Department will wrap up this year's Branch-Pick-up Program on Tuesday, October 15th, and will resume again in April of 2025. To date, we have had over 1,300 individual requested pick-ups. Because of the popularity of this program, the quantity of pick-ups often exceeds what can be done in one day, so we ask you to please allow a 2-3-day buffer for all requests.

Please remember this program intends to help Village of New Lenox residents with their property maintenance and is not intended to clean up commercial debris or debris from other jurisdictions' properties. Size is limited to a maximum diameter of 12 inches and a minimum of a 2-inch diameter. This program is offered to Village residents from April through October on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday. Don't forget, you must call the Public Works department to schedule the pick-up. If you call on the weekend, please leave your request with an address on the voicemail and we will be happy to add you to the next pick-up. We will resume scheduled pick-ups on Tuesday, April 1st, 2025. If you need a final pick-up for 2024, please call the Public Works Department at 815 215-4800.



EARLY VOTING FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION

Mark your calendars! The General Election is November 5th, 2024. Early voting for this election starts October 21st and runs through November 2nd, from 9 am until 4 pm, Monday through Friday, and from 9 am until noon on Saturdays. It will be located in the Community Room on the lower level of Village Hall. Same-day registration will also be offered during early voting. To register, two forms of identification, one listing your current address, must be presented. For a sample ballot or other questions, visit www.thewillcountyclerk.com or call (815) 740-4615.



CHRISTMAS IN THE COMMONS



The Village of New Lenox will again be celebrating the holiday season with Christmas in the Commons, bringing a magical light display, accompanying activities, and entertainment to the New Lenox Village Commons throughout the month of December. The stunning light display will return, creating a magical landscape adorned with lights and highlighted by 3D displays that make for amazing photo opportunities. The star

of the show, as always, is the largest illuminated Santa Claus in the United States, standing nearly 50 feet tall and covered in 18,500 LED lights. Santa will again be accompanied by his special mailbox, and all letters submitted by December 18th will receive a response from Santa! Christmas in the Commons will feature a calendar of events on Saturdays and Sundays from November 30th through December 22nd. Each day will include the holiday market, visits with Santa, horse-drawn wagon rides, souvenir mugs, hot cocoa, and much more. Full details and a complete schedule will be posted at newlenox.net/events as they are confirmed.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FRAUD AND EXTORTION CRIMES

The New Lenox Police Department has seen an uptick in fraudsters attempting to blackmail or coerce residents to pay sums of money via Bitcoin or gift cards. These scams vary in their exact method, but the common theme is the request to pay in Bitcoin or gift cards. The New Lenox Police Department is urging residents to be cautious and suspicious of emails and other communications in which the party is directing you to provide funds via Bitcoin or through gift cards. Some examples of these incidents include messages stating that your computer or other device has a virus or malware and you need to pay via Bitcoin to prevent a data leak; messages stating that an unknown entity has compromising photos or information that they threaten to spread to family, friends, and employers unless you pay a ransom; and, phone calls or messages in which the party is posing as a member of law enforcement stating you need to pay a fine or bond for a crime that you or a family member has committed. The fraudsters will occasionally have the names of family members or your current or prior address, which they will recite to further coerce you into providing a payment. Unfortunately, that information is easily available to fraudsters through basic Internet searches. The best response is to not send any funds and contact the police. If you have any concerns over any communications, threats, or requests from unknown sources, please contact the New Lenox Police Department non-emergency number at 815-485-2500.



Please remember, no legitimate company will ask for your personal information or accept Bitcoin or gift cards as a form of payment. Also, no law enforcement agency will contact you via phone to advise you of a warrant and request payment via Bitcoin or gift cards.

NEW LENOX POLICE SERGEANT RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARD



In July 2024, New Lenox Police Sergeant James Hansen and his coworkers on the Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Chicago Financial Crimes Task Force (CTCF) Group

were the recipients of a national award from the Officer of the President of the United States for their work in the field of Illicit Finance.

As a New Lenox Police Officer, James Hansen served on the HSI Chicago FCTF Team from 2018 until 2023. During that time, he became one of the lead investigators on a case later named Operation Banco Sucio. The investigation was designed to identify, disrupt, and dismantle complicit international money brokers and domestic operatives of a transnational criminal organization by conducting undercover money pickups of illicit funds. The investigation resulted in the seizure of over \$6.5 million, 132 kilograms of liquid methamphetamine, 592 kilograms of cocaine, 11 kilograms of methamphetamine, 18 kilograms of heroin/fentanyl, 11 guns, five vehicles, and one airplane. 29 individuals were indicted, including the cell leader, 13 of his coconspirators, and three Miami-based accountants allegedly responsible for laundering millions of dollars in narcotics proceeds.

For his tremendous effort on this case, Hansen was additionally awarded the Tactical Field Officer of the Year for 2023 by the Chicago HSI group. Later in 2023, Officer Hansen returned to full-time work at the New Lenox Police Department and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Congratulations to Sgt. James Hansen!

HOMETOWN HERO MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM

Now entering its 6th year, Mayor Baldermann and the Board of Trustees are proud to offer a Hometown Hero Military Banner Program here in the Village of New Lenox. This program honors current and former residents who have served or are currently serving our country in any branch of the military. Your Hero's banner will be displayed within our beautiful Village Commons for two years, from Memorial Day through Veterans Day. If requested, banners that are removed at the end of the two-year display period will be given to you as a keepsake. The application period for our next banner sponsorship opportunity is open from December 1st, 2024 through March 1st, 2025. To apply for a banner or to get more details about this program, please either visit www.newlenox.net or stop into Village Hall to pick up a copy of our brochure and application form. If you have any questions, call or email Megan Applegate at (815) 462-6427 or mapplegate@newlenox.net.



WATER-SEWER BILL PAYMENT OPTIONS

The Village of New Lenox offers multiple ways to view and pay your utility bill, plus 24/7 phone payments and pay by text. Residents can receive and view bills electronically, make a payment with a credit/debit card or e-check, and choose to go paperless. A quick, one-time payment can be made without registering or you can create an account to enjoy more features such as setting up automatic payments, saving payment information for later use, and viewing bill and payment history.

Residents can sign up for FREE ACH WITHDRAWAL as well. Customers may sign up for automatic payment withdrawal

cont'd on page 4

from a checking or savings account by filling out the Automatic Payment Withdrawal Form. This form can be found on the New Lenox website by clicking on Pay Your Water Bill. Submit the completed form with the requested information to the Village Hall. Your water/sewer bill will automatically be deducted from your account on the due date. You will still receive a monthly bill so you will know how much money will be deducted from your account.

OPEN NOW:

- **Don Jose's Cantina & Taqueria, LLC**, 1080 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the tenant space formerly occupied by Chicago Dough). Full-service restaurant with sit-down dining and gaming. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563344122290> and 855-366-5673
- **Hickey Funeral Home**, 2100 Calistoga (on the east side of Calistoga Drive, across the street from Berkot's). Funeral and burial services, which include merchandise sale of caskets, urns, printed material, and various other funeral-related merchandise. www.hickeyfuneral.com and (815) 485-8697
- **Jacquelyn Augustine PsyD PC**, 1938 E. Lincoln Hwy., Suite 207A (in Atrium Point on the corner of Route 30 and Schoolhouse Rd). Outpatient mental health service facility that offers therapy, consultations, training, and psychological testing. <https://www.augustinewellness.org/> and 708-512-7709
- **Rebuilt Strength & Rehab LLC**, 21739 S. Center St. (in the industrial park off Schoolhouse Road). A chiropractic clinic and fitness center that includes individual training and group classes. <https://www.rebuiltstrengthandrehab.com/> and 815-374-0930
- **Sarah Jean Photography**, 328 W. Maple St. (in the same plaza as Subway). Professional family and child photography which includes headshots and branding photography. <https://www.sarahjean.photography/> and 708-417-7289
- **SBARRO Pizza**, 2020 E. Laraway Road (inside Speed Trek on the southeast corner of Laraway and Schoolhouse Roads) is a drive-through/carry-out pizza shop. <https://sbarro.com/locations/il/new-lenox/speed-trek-new-lenox/> and 815-717-8810
- **Simply Music, LLC**, 164 W. Illinois Hwy (in the same plaza as Rising Sun Restaurant on Cedar Road & Illinois Hwy). A music school providing individual and group lessons to mostly school-age children. <https://www.simplymusicstudios.com/> and 779-379-2437
- **Speed Trek**, 2020 E. Laraway Road (on the southeast corner of Laraway and Schoolhouse Roads). Shell gas station that sells liquor, beer, wine, groceries, and tobacco. https://find.shell.com/us/fuel/13048286-2020-e-laraway-rd/en_US and (815) 717-8834
- **Suite Hub, LLC**, 327 W. Maple (in the plaza across the street from the United Methodist Church). Salon suite rental. <https://mysuitehub.com/> and 708-906-0641
- **Superior Level Nutrition**, 1417 E. Lincoln Hwy (in the plaza with Coldwell Banker that is west of Crash Champions). The



retail store will sell supplements, i.e., vitamins, minerals, herbs, targeted health, protein, pre-workout, aminos, and hydration (formerly Protein Headquarters).

<https://superiorlevelnutrition.com/> and 815-717-8903

- **Tati Art House, LLC** (home-based business). Sewing services, dressmaking, and cloth repair are offered. Text to 708-252-2897

COMING SOON:

- **Scooter's Coffee**, 700 E. Lincoln Hwy (inside Lenny's Gas & Wash on Route 30) will be serving coffee and food. <https://www.scooterscoffee.com/> Tentative Open Date: mid-October
- **SF Aesthetics Medspa S C**, 2071 E. Laraway Road (in the plaza east of Jewel Food Stores on Laraway & Schoolhouse Rd). Full-service medical spa. www.sfmedaesthetics.com Tentative Open Date: end of October



RELOCATIONS:

- **Health Service Systems**, 410 E. Lincoln Hwy, Suite 251 (in the former Presence Building across from Aldi). Physicians' office and primary care facility recently relocated from 250 E. Maple. www.silvercross.org and 815-300-7264
- **Kirchner Foot & Ankle**, 410 E. Lincoln Hwy, Suite 250 (in the former Presence Building across from Aldi). The practice, which also relocated from 250 E. Maple, offers podiatry services. <https://doctors.silvercross.org/provider/paul-b-kirchner/2120493> and 815-485-5830



NEW OWNERS:

- **Vapor Cabin**, 428 Nelson Rd (in the plaza with De Re Tire that is west of Planet Fitness). Sells tobacco products, vape juice, and CBD. 815-717-6263



NOTE: Businesses are published once they register with the Village of New Lenox. Residents may hear that an establishment is forthcoming to the Village but it is not publicized until a completed registration is submitted.

THANK YOU FOR EATING LOCAL DURING "RESTAURANT WEEK"

The Village and the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce want to thank residents for patronizing local eateries in September for the 8th annual Restaurant Week.

We are thrilled that some residents discovered an existing place to eat for the first time, which is one of the Village's and Chamber's objectives in hosting these marketing promotions. As families get busier now that school has started, remember that sometimes it's easier to pick food up from all 75 of our local eating establishments!

