



NEW LENOX

# VILLAGER



## 2020 Census

Over the past four months, the Village of New Lenox has been promoting the 2020 Census through social media, reminders on water bills, and signs located at main intersections around the Village. As of June 10th, the Village's response rate was 81%. Up until this point, New Lenox has ranked #1 in our responses throughout Will County communities, however other communities are close behind. While the current response rate is good, it's not 100%! Responding to the 2020 Census helps our community receive the funding it needs for roads and highways, libraries, schools, and healthcare for the next 10 years until the next Census takes place.

In today's society, it is understandable to be hesitant to respond to questions regarding your household. The Census Bureau will never ask for your social security number, bank or credit card account numbers, money or donations, or anything on behalf of a political party. Your personal information is kept confidential, as the Census Bureau is bound by federal law to protect your information.

It is not too late to respond to the 2020 Census and it takes less than ten minutes of your time. There are 3 ways to respond: [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov), call (844) 330-2020, or mail in the paper copy if your household received one in the mail. Starting mid-August through the end of October, Census takers, also known as enumerators, will interview homes that have not responded to the 2020 Census. Avoid someone knocking on your door and respond today! For more information regarding the 2020 Census, please visit [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).



**Forgot To Complete Your 2020 Census?**

**Don't Worry!**

### You're Busy, We Get It

Here's a game-plan for getting it done:

- Set aside 10 minutes to respond,
- Go online, pick up the phone, or fill out the paper copy you might have received by mail,
- Fill out the 9 simple questions,
- Include your children,
- Finish your answers,
- Sit back and feel good about doing your part to make our community's future brighter!



## Outdoor Dining / Restaurant Precautions



The Village values all of its businesses and has been staying in contact with them to provide resources that can sustain them during the COVID-19 pandemic and Restore Illinois Plan phases. One initiative adopted in June was to provide temporary outdoor dining permits to provide restaurants without existing patios flexible requirements to accommodate outdoor dining.

We want residents to know that the following restaurants received a permit to allow for temporary outdoor dining:

- **Arrowhead Ales Brewing Co.**  
2101 Calistoga Dr.
- **Beggar's Pizza** 650 W. Maple St.
- **Buffalo Wild Wings** 414 Nelson Rd.
- **Chicago Dough Company**  
1080 E. Lincoln Hwy.
- **Country Charm** 101 Lincolnway Dr.
- **Gatto's Restaurant & Bar**  
1938 E. Lincoln Hwy.
- **Mattina Café** 280 E. Lincoln Hwy.
- **Teardrop Café** 826 W. Laraway Rd.
- **Tom Kelly's Chophouse & Pub**  
495 DeGroate Rd.
- **Williamson's Restaurant & Bar**  
1490 W. Lincoln Hwy.

These dining options are in addition to restaurants that already had outdoor patios, including 3 Corners Grill and Tap, Buffalo Wild Wings, Bulldog Ale House, Coopers Hawk Winery, Hickory Creek Brewing Company, JBD White Horse Inn, and MOD Pizza. A full list of restaurants and the dining options they have available can be found on the Village's website, [www.newlenox.net](http://www.newlenox.net).

In another initiative, the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce and the Village partnered to speak with local restaurants about their safety precautions in anticipation of Illinois moving into Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan at the end of June, which is expected to include indoor dining subject to occupancy restrictions. The Village and Chamber are sensitive to residents wanting to be assured that indoor dining, when available, is safe to patronize.

## Village Officials

Timothy Baldermann / Mayor  
 Laura Zilinskas / Village Clerk  
 Annette Bowden / Trustee  
 David Butterfield / Trustee  
 Douglas Finnegan / Trustee  
 Jasen Howard / Trustee  
 Keith Madsen / Trustee  
 David Smith / Trustee  
 Kurt T. Carroll / Village Administrator

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## 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.

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](http://www.newlenox.net)

## Outdoor Dining cont'd.

Restaurants were clean and safe prior to the COVID-19 crisis. However, all restaurants will now be subject to compliance with additional Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. We contacted several, diverse restaurants and received their input as to additional safety measures that have been adopted. Some ways in which local restaurants are complying with these guidelines include:

- Making hand sanitizers available outside and all over the restaurant
- Requiring all staff to wear masks
- Making everything related to table service disposable – even menus
- Offering condiments only upon request, and disinfecting their containers before and after each use
- Screening employees' temperatures when they report to work
- Disinfecting and sanitizing tables after every customer
- Increasing sanitizing efforts to include to door knobs, bathroom counters, and toilets every 30 minutes.
- Revising the restaurant's employee handbook to include COVID-19 requirements
- Assigning a manager to monitor the front door to allow only the allotted number of guests inside at any given time
- Texting customers when their table is ready so they can wait in their vehicles.

The Village and Chamber are providing the above information to help alleviate any safety-related concerns in dining at local establishments residents may have.

## Mosquito Abatement

Mosquitos are an all too familiar nuisance. They can transmit several illnesses such as St. Louis encephalitis, malaria, yellow fever and West Nile Virus. West Nile Virus is of particular significance as it is more prominent to our area.

The Village of New Lenox Public Works Department is working to reduce area mosquito populations and nuisance health hazards associated with mosquitoes. Prior to the mosquito "season," Public Works crews apply larvicide to storm sewer catch basins, retention ponds, and other large areas that hold still water where mosquitos may breed. After treating breeding sites, if mosquito populations exceed a nuisance threshold, crews will spray mosquito adulticide in an attempt to reduce the adult mosquito level. Operators and applicators employed by the Village are certified by the State of Illinois Department of Agriculture for mosquito abatement. Residents of the community who desire to be notified prior to spraying because they suffer from allergies, respiratory problems, or have other concerns are encouraged to call (815) 215-4800 weekdays between 7:00am and 3:30pm.

## West Nile Virus and Zika Virus

West Nile virus (WNV) and Zika Virus are mosquito-borne viruses that can result in illness, cause birth defects and sometimes death. The virus can infect humans, birds and other mammals. WNV and Zika are transmitted through a mosquito's bite. Individuals over the age of 50 have an elevated risk of contracting the WNV, however, anyone living in an area where the virus has been detected is at risk. Your best bet for preventing West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses is to avoid exposure to mosquitoes and eliminate mosquito-breeding sites. To reduce your own exposure to mosquitoes, here is a helpful checklist:

- Eliminate standing water in your yard. Mosquitoes breed in pools of standing water.
- Unclog roof gutters.



- Empty unused swimming pools.
- Change water in birdbaths and plant pot drip trays at least weekly.
- Remove old tires or any unused containers that might hold water and serve as a breeding place for mosquitoes.
- Cover trash containers to keep out rain water.
- Empty plastic wading pools at least once a week and try to store them indoors when not in use.
- Make sure your backyard pool is properly cared for while you're on vacation.
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well-trimmed around your house. This eliminates hiding places for adult mosquitos.
- Watch for sick or dying birds and report them to the [Will County Health Department](http://www.willcountyhealth.org) (815) 727-8480.
- Avoid unnecessary outdoor activity when mosquitoes are most prevalent, such as at dawn, dusk and early evening.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when you go into mosquito-infested areas.

For more information on these and other mosquito-borne illnesses please go to the following websites:

<http://www.willcountyhealth.org/Public-Health-and-Safety/Environmental-Health/EHD/category/108/West-Nile-Virus>

<http://www.willcountyhealth.org/Home/Zika>

<http://www.cdc.gov/zika/>

## Improperly/Illegally Connected Sump Pumps

Sump pumps that are connected to the sanitary collection system are considered illegally connected (Village Ordinance, sec. 94-33 Discharge of unpolluted water).

The Village of New Lenox sanitary sewer system is not designed to handle sump pump flow. The additional flow from sump pumps hydraulically overloads the system and cause water to back up into people's homes, causing damage and devastation to your fellow neighbors or even yourself.

### Where should your sump pump discharge?

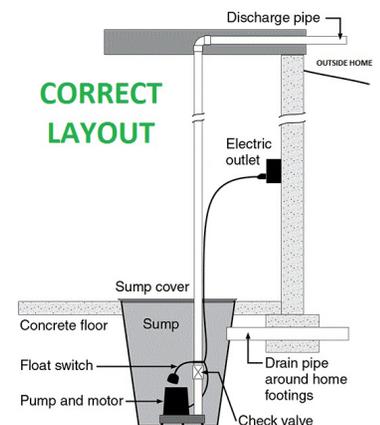
Sump pumps should discharge outside your home to a location where the water will flow away from your house while not being a nuisance to your neighbor's property. This can be done with a simple sump pump hose, if you are worried about aesthetics a buried drain tile ran to a yard discharge would also be adequate.

In some areas a storm sewer may be close enough for you to connect to. Public Works can evaluate whether that is an option for you. If feasible and requested, the Village will run a connection point from the Village's storm sewer into your yard for you to connect to.

### Not sure if your sump pump is legally connected?

If you would like to talk to a wastewater employee about your sump pump or have an inspection, we would be more than happy to meet with you. Please call Public Works at (815) 215-4800 to schedule an appointment or inquire about a storm water connection.

The sewer department is available 24/7, 365 days per year. Any time you suspect a sewer issue, call the Village first to determine if the problem is located in the sewer main or your service line. During normal business hours you can call Public Works at (815) 215-4800. If your issue occurs after normal hours you can call the Village Non-emergency number (815) 485-2500 and an employee will contact you.



## New Lenox Public Works Achieves American Public Works Association Accreditation

The New Lenox Public Works Department has recently received full accreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA). This accreditation formally verifies and recognizes that the agency is in full compliance with the recommended management practices set forth in APWA's Public Works Management Practices Manual.

The Accreditation of the Village of New Lenox Public Works Department indicates staff has met the requirements for all applicable Accreditation documentation and practices over time. In a statement from Brian Williams, Public Works Director, "The awarding of the APWA Accreditation reflects the dedication from all the staff, including other departments, towards continuous improvement and excellence. We are extremely proud to receive this honor. The heroes of this prestigious APWA award are the public works staff whose mission is to provide services and programs that contribute to making the Village of New Lenox a great place to live and work."

The purpose of accreditation is to promote excellence in the operation and management of a public works agency, its programs and employees. Accreditation is designed to assist the agency in continuous improvement of operations and management, and in providing a valid and objective evaluation of agency programs as a service to the public and the profession. Going through the accreditation process allowed New Lenox to focus on operational policies and procedures that will help improve the level of service to the community.

APWA's accreditation process includes five major steps:

- **Self-Assessment:** Using the Public Works Management Practices Manual, an internal review of an agency's practices combined with a comparison of the recommended practices contained in the manual;
- **Application:** Once the decision has been made to commit to the Accreditation Program, the agency submits a formal application;
- **Improvement:** After the agency has completed the self-assessment and identified areas needing improvement, the agency will work to bring all practices into an acceptable level of compliance with the recommended practices;
- **Evaluation:** Following the completion of the improvement phase, the agency will request a site visit. The site visit will consist of a review and evaluation of the agency to determine the level of compliance with all applicable practices.
- **Accreditation:** The Accreditation Council will review the site visit results and recommendation from the team, voting to award or deny accreditation.

Awarded the prestigious accreditation designation by APWA's Accreditation Council January 27, 2020, the New Lenox Public Works Department becomes the 8th agency to achieve the Accreditation designation in the State of Illinois. In addition to the New Lenox agency, the accredited agencies in Illinois include Buffalo Grove, Crystal Lake, Highland Park, Libertyville, Naperville, Schaumburg and Skokie.

Open to all governmental agencies with responsibilities for public works functions, initial accreditation from APWA is for a four-year period, during which time semi-annual updates will be required to demonstrate continuing compliance. After that time, there is a re-accreditation process which builds on the original accreditation, encouraging continuous improvement and compliance with newly identified practices.



## Branch Pick-Up

The Village of New Lenox Public Works Department offers a Branch Pick-Up Program **April through October.**

Depending on the weather, crews will be dispatched on the **1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month for those residents who request to be put on the list.** Because the quantity of pickups often exceeds what can be done in one day, please allow crews through thursday morning to complete the pick-up.



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

- Residents need to contact the Public Works Department by calling (815) 215-4800 to be placed on the list **each time** they need a pick-up.
- Materials that **will not** be picked up include but are not limited to: railroad ties, wood telephone poles, construction material, lumber, stones, roots or root balls, vines, dirt, nails and metal. These materials will damage our equipment and present unsafe conditions for Village crews and the general public.
- Branches must be placed on the parkway as crews will not encroach on private property to remove branches.
- Please **DO NOT** tie or bundle branches.
- Please place branches with thorns in a separate pile.
- Only branches 1 inch in diameter or larger will be picked up, as smaller materials do not go through the chipper properly. The Maximum diameter size is 12 inches.
- When placing the branches in the parkway, do not block the sidewalk, streetlight base, fire hydrants, or manholes.
- Place the cut ends of the branches towards the street.
- For longer branches that may block the sidewalk, we will require the cut ends of the branches be pointing to the left side of your property as you face your property from the curb. When the chipper pulls up to your home, the chipper opening will be facing the cut ends of the branches. This allows our crews to load the branches safely and efficiently.
- The intent of this program is to help Village of New Lenox residents with their property maintenance and is not intended to clean up commercial debris or debris from other jurisdiction's properties.

For any storms with wind gusts reaching 50mph and storms declared a disaster, the Village will be out patrolling the town for damage. We recommend that residents still call to schedule a branch pick-up where the above guidelines would apply to ensure we do not miss you.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a pick-up, please call the Public Works Department at (815) 215-4800.

## FREE Mental Health First Aid Class



The Village of New Lenox and its Safe Community Coalition, in partnership with Sertoma Centre, Inc., is offering a FREE Mental Health First Aid Class on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Prior to the instructor-led class, which will utilize videoconferencing technology (Zoom), participants will complete a 2-hour, self-paced course.

Mental Health First Aid teaches how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. This class is ideal for behavioral health professionals, social workers, counselors, first responders and anyone who wants to learn about the warning signs of major depression and suicidal behavior. Attendees will also learn about the history of MHFA in the United States, risk factors and warning signs for non-suicidal self-injury, warning signs of substance abuse dependence, and the MHFA action plan for

Cont'd. on page 4

## Open Now

**Fresenius Kidney Care** 662 Cedar Crossing Drive (Cedar Crossings Drive is east of Silver Cross Hospital). Fresenius is an outpatient dialysis unit which will be providing in-center dialysis treatment to patients with end stage renal disease.

**Fresh Air Experts** is a home-based business which provides sanitizing and disinfectant spray services for homes, businesses, and vehicles. The spray kills viruses (including COVID-19) and bacteria and is safe for humans, animals, and food. Phone #708-888-2008.

<https://freshairexpert.com/>

**O'Reilly Auto Parts** 1105 E. Lincoln Hwy. (on the northeast corner of Pleasant St. and Route 30). O'Reilly sells retail and wholesale auto parts and related supplies. <https://www.oreillyauto.com/>

**Legacy Healthcare Services** 1023 S. Cedar Rd. (inside The Cottages of New Lenox that is south of the strip mall with Rising Sun Restaurant). Legacy is a non-profit organization providing on-site physical and occupational therapies and speech pathology services to The Cottage's residents. <https://www.legacyinc.com/>

**Ricco's Auto Parts** at 21950 Howell Drive (off Schoolhouse Road in the same strip mall as Songbird Café), Unit #8, provides complete auto repair services. Phone: 815-717-8426.

## Merged Business

**Cedar and Moss Photo Studios** 120 Batson Court (in the office complex that is on North Cedar Road, west of Cozy Fireplace and Ugly Ducklings by Kathleen), is a merger of two independent studios, Golightly Photography and Waffles and Honey Photography. <https://www.cedarandmossstudios.com/>

## Coming Soon

**Crash Champions** 1429 E. Lincoln Highway (east of the Coldwell Banker Plaza on Route 30). <https://crashchampions.com/auto-body-shop-new-lenox/>

Provides collision repair. Tentative Opening: August, 2020.

**Mainstream Boutique** 2340 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the strip mall by Target and directly south of Portillo's Hot Dogs). Apparel and fashion company offering women's clothing, shoes, and accessories. Tentative Opening: mid-August 2020.

<https://mainstreamboutique.com/pages/mac-me>

**Silver Cross Hospital's Urgent Care** 1851 Silver Cross Blvd.

Tentative Opening: July 6, 2020

<https://www.silvercross.org/care-treatment/urgent-care/>

**Teardrop at the Library** 120 Veteran's Pkwy. (inside the New Lenox Library building). An additional Teardrop Café location with inside sales of coffee, non-alcoholic beverage, snacks, sandwiches, salads, soups and more. Tentative Opening: July 6, 2020.

**Westside Children's Therapy** 2320 E. Lincoln Hwy. (in the former Mattress Firm space that is located in a strip mall by Target and directly south of Portillo's Hot Dogs). Westside is an outpatient pediatric therapy center that offers services in physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech, feeding, applied behavior analysis (ABA), as well as child and family therapy.

Tentative Opening: July, 2020

<https://westsidechildrenstherapy.com/>

## Free Mental Health Cont'd.

individuals addicted to substances. The virtual training will be based on new curricula that has been in development for more than a year. It includes expanded content on trauma, addiction, and self-care.

Class size is limited to twenty (20). To ensure that all participants have time to complete the 2-hour self-paced course prior to August 12th, the deadline to register will be July 28, 2020. To register, please contact Daniel Martin, Safe Community Coordinator, Village of New Lenox, by email [dmartin@newlenox.net](mailto:dmartin@newlenox.net) or by phone (815) 462-6493.

For additional questions and information regarding CEUs, contact Gia Washington at Sertoma Centre, Inc. (708) 748-1951 or [gwashington@sertomacentre.org](mailto:gwashington@sertomacentre.org).



## "Spring into Summer" is coming in July

Due to the stay-at-home order, the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce and the Village had to postpone the "Bring on Spring" marketing promotion. Now that more retailers are open in Phase 3, we are working to launch a "Spring into Summer" campaign. Local businesses have received information about offering 20% off, buy one/get something free, or special offers at their establishments. The promotion begins on July 6th and goes through July 15th, 2020. Residents are encouraged to consider shopping local during the promotion once the list of participating businesses is published on the Chamber's and Village's websites and social media pages. We regularly encourage residents to shop local but given the impact of the stay-at-home order to businesses, the time to support local businesses is NOW.



## Village of New Lenox - Special Events Update

As we continue to monitor and follow the most current CDC guidelines, we are excited to announce that we have decided to host some of our previously scheduled Summer community events!



Our Triple Play Concert Series is still on the schedule, though with a few changes. After rescheduling Dennis DeYoung to August 29th and ZZ Top to September 12th, our August 8th concert featuring Billy Idol unfortunately had to be taken out of the line-up, as Billy Idol made the decision to cancel all of his summer events. We are still hoping to get in the last two concerts later in the season, and will decide either way by mid-to-late July. Please continue to check the Village website for further updates.

To kick-off the summer, as we had to cancel all June events as well as our annual Independence Day Celebration and fireworks display, the Village will host a 4th of July Parade, on Saturday, July 4th at 11am, to honor and thank all front line, essential personnel who worked amid the Covid-19 pandemic. This parade will feature local Veterans' groups from the VFW and American Legion, Health Care Workers, Front Line workers, First Responders, Teachers, members from our local CERT and ESDA teams, and a group from our Village, Township and other local constituent services. We thank all of those who helped organize and make this parade come to life and we look forward to seeing you all there!

In July, the Village will begin its Movies in the Commons schedule. Come out each Wednesday evening, to enjoy a feature film at our performance pavilion, beginning around dusk (approximately 8:30pm). In July, our movie list includes "Sonic the Hedgehog", "Toy Story 4", "Spider-Man: Far From Home" and "Shrek." The final movie night of the season will be on August 12th. For a full list of scheduled movies, please visit [www.newlenox.net/events](http://www.newlenox.net/events).

Also included on the schedule of July events are Live on the Lawn (July 12th), featuring the New Lenox Community Band, our second annual Chalk Walk (July 18th) and our first of three Cruise the Commons evenings on July 21st. Our August and September event calendars are full of fun for the whole family as well. From our annual Ladies Night Out to Fridays After Five, you will find activities that people of every age can enjoy!

We hope you can make it out to enjoy one or more of these events and we look forward to seeing you in the Commons this summer! For more information and details regarding each of these events, please visit [www.newlenox.net/events](http://www.newlenox.net/events) or call the Village at (815) 462-6400.