

**Village of Bedford Park
Board Briefs
July 6, 2020**

“Preserving the past to enhance the future”

Safety

Please observe the speed limit and stop signs in the residential area. We have a growing number of young children in the Village and their safety is a top priority. The Police Department will be hosting a bike safety training class for young people at the Village Hall on July 23rd. A few helpful bike safety tips as well as the information to RSVP for the training class is attached. Deadline to RSVP is July 17th!

New Trustee

Dr. Thomas Pallardy was named to fill the vacancy of the late Bob Regep as trustee. In his interview, Dr. Pallardy pointed out his strength of questioning to find out information on issues, which was Bob's strong point on the Board for many years. He has lived in the Village with his family for the past 23 years and has worked for the Palos Hills Public Works and Police Department as well as North Palos Fire Department. He was a teacher, a coach and is currently a counselor at St. Laurence High School. Dr. Pallardy holds a doctorate degree in Clinical Psychology and operates his own practice in that field. We appreciate everyone's efforts that participated in the process.

Centennial Plaques

Our Public Works staff has installed plaques in front of our original homes in the Village to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the construction of those homes. We thank Bob Erklin for the idea to commemorate the anniversary. The response to the plaques has been great.

Event Center/Street Naming

We are holding a Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Event Center on July 11th that will comply with social distancing standards. Dedication of street naming for Congressman Lipinski, business owner Sam Ekstein and the late Trustee Bob Regep will also be celebrated at the event. Bob had served the Village for 28 years as a Trustee, in addition to serving the Park District as a

Commissioner. For Bob's commitment and service to the Village, 67th Street in the residential area will be named in his honor.

Coyotes

We have a number of reports of coyotes in the North property. If you see a coyote, please call the Village Hall to report the sighting. Coyotes have been in the area for about 15 years. They rarely interact with humans but can be a threat to small dogs. The coyotes usually are visible at dusk and dawn and hunt in packs at night. They live underground in dens. We have a certified expert working on this issue for us.

Police 911 Dispatch

Kindly recall that the Village consolidated our 911 Dispatch services with Summit and Hickory Hills a couple of years ago to meet State requirements on population for such services. Bedford Park and Hickory Hills housed the services. The Village's Fire Dispatch services have been housed at Oak Lawn Central for a number of years to enhance paramedic software and insurance standards. Beginning August 1st, the 911 Dispatch services will be housed at Hickory Hills. Residents should not notice a change in service. The Village offered an incentive to accommodate the eight full-time employees working out of the dispatch center in Bedford Park. Three employees will take early retirement, two will move to Hickory Hills Dispatch, one will move to Orland Park Dispatch, one will be transferred to another department within the Village, and one will seek employment in their field. The Village will realize a cost savings after one year with the change and it will set us up to manage the next wave of State mandated changes for the services. We greatly appreciate the services of our dispatch staff and look forward to the continued great service in their new role.

Speed Bumps

The Village has installed additional speed bumps in the residential area. Most of the bumps will be seasonal to accommodate snow removal. We will evaluate the need for speed bumps for next year.

Swimming Pools

The Village Board unanimously passed an amendment to our Swimming Pools Ordinance. This should accommodate the growing number of hot tubs and blow up pools that we have. This is the first amendment of a residential ordinance in a period of years. If you have a questions, please contact Building Coordinator Jerry Ponio at the Village Hall.

Village Vehicle Stickers/Repair Program

Sales for the 2020-2021 vehicles stickers have begun. The Automobile Repair Program coincides with the cycle of the vehicle stickers. When you renew your vehicles, you can sign up for the program at that time. The deadline to enroll in the Automobile Repair Program is July 31st.

Dogs/Cats

With summer upon us, people are out enjoying the weather. Please keep in mind that all dogs/cats must be leashed at all times throughout the Village. This is to prevent the dog/cat from biting or attacking another person or animal. Also, please pick up after your dog/cat. There are waste bags available by railroad alley if needed while walking your dog/cat.

All dogs/cats must be registered in the Village Clerk's Office. Tags will be given upon registration. Any questions, please contact the Village Hall at (708) 458-2067.

Fines

If you have obligations to the Village, please make the necessary payments. All obligations **MUST** be met for a resident to receive the property tax rebate scheduled for August. Our Police Department works hard to consistently enforce our ordinances in a manner that helps all residents.

U.S. Census 2020

The U.S. Census has been ongoing. Every household should have received information on how to fill out the form online or by mail. Please take this time to fill out the U.S. Census. This helps our community receive the proper count for services and funding for parks, schools, roadwork, and other aspects for our community. More information and how to respond can be found on the U.S. Census website, visit www.2020census.gov.

Summer Tutoring Program

We appreciate the involvement in the Summer Tutoring Program. The program will conclude on July 24th. Great job by the tutors and the students!

Stay Healthy and Safe!

Thanks for your Patience and Cooperation!

YOUTH BIKE SAFETY COURSE

JULY 23RD from 2pm-4pm

Please join the Bedford Park Police Department as we host a youth bike safety course and pizza party!

OUR PROGRAM WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- Rules of the Road - Riding in traffic
- Bike Safety - Basic safety tools and habits
- Bike Mechanics - basic maintenance - ABC quick check
- Bike handling skills - starts, stops, turns, signaling, scanning
- Avoidance maneuvers
- Group ride
- Pizza and Ice Cream!

Please bring your bike, helmet and protective riding equipment. We will also practice social distancing and masks will be required indoors.

Event will take place at Bedford Park Village Hall

Register your kids today!

To register your kids (ages 7-18) for our program, please RSVP by sending an e-mail to info@villageofbedfordpark.com or call 708-458-2067

Deadline for registration is Friday, July 17th!

Bike Safety

BEDFORD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT



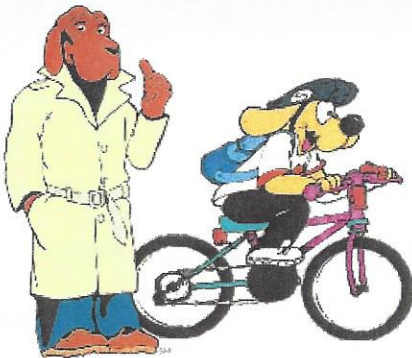
Bicycle Safety Equipment

Bicycle helmets are an essential element of bicycle safety and must be properly fitted and adjusted. While riding, always wear an approved safety helmet to protect your head and brain from injury in case of an accident.

Make sure your bicycle has the following safety equipment:

- ✓ Front light visible for at least 500 feet (night riders)
- ✓ Clear front reflector
- ✓ Red rear reflector visible from 100-600 feet
- ✓ Horn or bell that can be heard up to 100 feet
- ✓ Reliable, properly adjusted brakes
- ✓ Wheel-mounted side reflectors
- ✓ Reflector pedals
- ✓ Gears that are adjusted and operate smoothly
- ✓ Properly adjusted seat
- ✓ Handlebars and all accessories securely attached

Bike Safety Tips *For Children*



- **Always wear a helmet.**
- **Look both ways for traffic.**
- **Wear bright clothes.**
- **Make sure your tires have air in them.**
- **Use a backpack to carry books and other stuff!**
- **Always lock your bike up.**
- **Always ride with a friend.**

Bicycle Safety and Children

Most crashes involving child bicyclists are caused by the child, such as riding out of a residential driveway, alley or side street without looking, failing to stop at stop signs or traffic lights, and making left turns without first looking over their shoulder for approaching traffic and signaling. With training and education, these crashes can be prevented.

The Hard Facts:

Properly fitted helmets can reduce the risk of head injuries by at least 45 percent – yet less than half of children 14 and under usually wear a bike helmet

Top Tips:

- ☛ Wear a properly-fitted helmet. It is the best way to prevent head injuries and death.
- ☛ Ride on the sidewalk when you can. If not, ride in the same direction as traffic as far on the right-hand side as possible.
- ☛ Wear bright colors and use lights, especially when riding at night and in the morning. Reflectors on your clothes and bike will help you be seen.
- ☛ Ride with your children. Stick together until you are comfortable that your kids are ready to ride on their own.

See, Be Seen, and Be Heard



Use lights at night or in poor visibility. Flashing lights and reflective clothing are very effective. Use a horn or bell to be heard.





six simple **BIKE SAFETY TIPS** *for your family*



ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET

A proper fitting helmet should set right above eyebrows and be tightly buckled so it doesn't slip when riding.

OBEY TRAFFIC SIGNS

Always ride with the traffic, obeying traffic signs and using proper hand signals.



NEVER WEAR HEADPHONES

When riding your bike, turn off the music and do not wear headphones so you can devote your full attention to the road.

NIGHT RIDING

Try not to ride at night or in bad weather, but if you must, remember to have lights and proper reflectors on your bicycle and reflectors on your clothing.



CLOTHING CAUTION

Watch out for loose pant legs or shoe strings that can get stuck in bike chains.



DISCUSS RIDING ROUTES



Bike Safety Tips

- ✓ Wear a helmet at all times.
- ✓ Obey all traffic laws, signs, and signals.
- ✓ Keep to the right side of the roadway.
- ✓ Keep brakes, lights, reflectors, horn or bell, and all safety devices in good working condition.
- ✓ Learn and use hand signals for turns and stops.
- ✓ Follow the Rules of the Road, but ride defensively.
- ✓ Avoid riding after dark. If you must ride after dark, the bike must have a headlight and taillight or reflector.
- ✓ Do not speed, race, or weave in and out of traffic.
- ✓ Do not carry passengers or large packages.
- ✓ Never hitch on to a truck, car, or other moving vehicle.
- ✓ Keep both hands on the handle bars, except to signal a turn or stop.
- ✓ Be cautious and ride defensively.
- ✓ If needed, dismount and walk the bike across dangerous intersections or streets.
- ✓ Never squeeze into narrow places or between two vehicles.

For more information on bicycle safety, visit the Illinois Secretary of State website:

www.CYBERDRIVEILLINOIS.COM