



THE VILLAGE NEWS

COMMITTED TO OUR FUTURE ... INSPIRED BY OUR PAST

WINTER 2017-2018

In this Issue

Village Administrator.....	2
Village Clerk	2
Community Development	3
Police Department	4
Public Works	5
Village of Itasca	6
Fire Protection District	7
Itasca Community Library	8
Itasca Park District	9
Holiday Events	10-11
Community Comments	12



Village Extends Leaf Pick-up Date
page 2



Itasca Holiday Events
pages 9-11

Message from the Mayor



Mayor Jeff Pruyn

Between the chill in the air and holiday music in stores, winter is now at our doorsteps.

As the Village prepares for winter operations, we are still in the process of closing out from one of our busiest summers ever! The microburst storm in late July caused widespread damage in Itasca that has taken months to clean-up. Village staff worked diligently to expedite permits for repairs to homes and businesses, while crews went to work cleaning up and repairing storm-damaged public property and parkway trees. All in all, the Village spent nearly \$300,000 on storm restoration efforts. While it will take a few years, the Village has already begun the process of restoring our beautiful streetscapes – with 80 new trees being planted this fall!

The cooler weather also ushers in the close of construction season. On November 1, the Illinois Route 390 Tollway opened as a cashless Tollway to Illinois Route 83, marking the end of substantial construction. Large-scale construction projects are never easy, and I thank you all for your patience.

Unfortunately, winter does not bring an end to airplane noise. The Village continues to work closely with the O’Hare Noise Compatibility Commission and the Suburban O’Hare Commission as we advocate for quieter

skies and fairer disbursement of airplane noise.

Over the summer, O’Hare tested two runway rotation plans. Runway rotation test number 2 took place from April 30th to July 23rd. This plan was similar to last year’s runway rotation plan. Runway rotation test number 3 took place from July 23rd and ended October 15th. The major difference between test 3 and previous tests is it did not include diagonal runway 15/33, which is scheduled to be decommissioned in the spring of 2018. The test results will be analyzed by aviation experts to determine how they affected noise levels in communities surrounding the airport.

If you noted a difference in air traffic noise during the rotation tests, I encourage you to share your experience with the Suburban O’Hare Commission by completing an online survey at www.airportprojects.net/flyquiettest.

Last but not least, I’d like to welcome Itasca’s new Village Administrator, Carie Anne Ergo. As the former Chief Management Officer for Illinois’ second largest city, Aurora, she brings to Itasca unique skill sets and years of administrative experience. I’m excited to have Carie Anne on board as I know she will use her expertise to enhance our community.

I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!



Itasca Welcomes New Village Administrator

On September 18, 2017, Carie Anne Ergo joined Itasca as its new village administrator.

Carie Anne said what attracted her most to Itasca was its small-town charm and strong track record of fiscal responsibility. “Residents in Itasca enjoy the best of both worlds – they can experience all the benefits of living in a small, friendly community and still have easy access to big city amenities,” explained Carie Anne. “One resident described Itasca as Mayberry in the middle of the metropolis – and I couldn’t agree more,” she added.

Carie said she intends to continue the long tradition of preserving and protecting Itasca’s hometown character,

while at the same time looking at new ways to support business growth and development.

Between the completion of IL 390, redevelopment opportunities along Rowling Road and a strong downtown infrastructure, Carie expressed optimism about Itasca’s future development potential. “By growing area businesses, we can help ease the property tax burden on residents,” Carie explained. “That is why positioning Itasca as an ideal community for business will continue to be a top priority.”

The Village Board selected Carie Anne after conducting a nation-wide search that resulted in nearly 50 qualified applicants and eight interview candidates.

“Carie Anne understands the challenges facing local governments

today and has a demonstrated track record of tackling those challenges through innovation and collaboration,” explained Mayor Jeff Pruyn. “Her wide range of experiences and strong fiscal management background will be valuable as we continue striving to provide excellent services at a reasonable cost.”

A life-long resident of DuPage County, Carie Anne has more than two decades of serving in local municipalities. Most recently, she served as the Chief Management Officer in Aurora, Illinois. Prior to joining Aurora in 2006, she served at the City of Naperville for 9 years. She holds a bachelor’s degree in political science from Calvin College and a master’s degree in public service management from DePaul University.

From the Desk of the Village Clerk

Jody Conidi, Village Clerk • Phone: (630) 773-0835 • e-mail: clerk@itasca.com

As we wrap up 2017, here are the upcoming events and reminders:

- The annual Hat and Mitten Tree is at Village Hall from Monday, November 27 through Friday, December 29, 2017. In addition to new hats, mittens, and scarves, donations of new, unwrapped toys are also being collected.
- Due to a late fall, we have extended the final yard waste and branch pick-up date to Monday, December 11, 2017.
- Dog licenses for 2018 are due January 1, 2018. Applications and licenses are available at Village Hall beginning Friday, December 1, 2017.
- The annual Night with Santa is December 12, 2017 at the Itasca Community Library.

Itasca Cares coordinates the Itasca Food Pantry, Itasca Walk-In Ministry, Itasca Homeless Shelter and Itasca Community Outreach Team. To donate or volunteer this holiday season, contact Itasca Cares at (630) 200-3978 or visit www.itsacares.org.





Floodplain Insurance Map Update

As noted in past Village newsletters, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in cooperation with the state of Illinois and DuPage County, is in the process of updating and issuing new Flood Insurance Rate Maps for all of DuPage County. The current Flood Insurance Rate Maps were published in 2004, and the current map update is part of FEMA's regular program to update maps every 10 years or so.

As part of FEMA's map approval process, a public open house was held in July at DuPage County's administration building, and this open house marked the beginning of a 30-day public comment period in which municipalities and property owners could make comments on the proposed maps. The public comment period closed at the end of August.

A total of 127 comments were received by the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS), including many from Village of Itasca property owners. DuPage County, ISWS, and FEMA are currently working to review the comments received, further study certain areas and properties, and refine maps, as necessary.

This winter will begin a 90-day technical appeals period, in which the data behind the maps can be reviewed and changed based on technical data and analysis presented by municipalities. Following the technical appeals period, there is a period of undetermined length in which the Flood Insurance Rate Maps and their corresponding Flood Insurance Study are updated and finalized, followed by a 6-month compliance period in which the maps are adopted by communities.

FEMA estimates that the maps will be finalized in summer and fall of 2018 and become effective in late spring 2019. At that time, mortgage companies and insurers will be required to use them. Property owners can find out more information about floodplain mapping on FEMA's website: <https://www.fema.gov/homeowners-frequently-asked-questions>. The Village's Community Development Department can also assist with map interpretation and other questions related to the map update.

Coyote Sightings in the Suburbs

Coyotes are frequently sighted in the area, and occasionally there are reports of domestic pets being lost to the natural instinct of this wildlife predator. More recently, sightings of coyotes with mange have been reported in nearby communities. Itasca residents are encouraged to take proactive measures to prevent attracting coyotes to residential yards by keeping the ground clear of pet and/or wild animal food, and not leaving small pets unattended outside.

Please be advised that Village police personnel do not respond to reports of coyote sightings, nuisance complaints of coyotes, or any other wild animal complaints unless the animal poses a clear and immediate threat to public health, safety or welfare. A vicious, injured, or any wild animal acting in a threatening manner or suspected of having rabies should be reported immediately by telephoning 9-1-1.

Removal of nuisance wildlife from private property is the homeowner's responsibility and is best left to a professional contractor having the training, experience, equipment and the required trapping permits from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to safely resolve the situation. Private contractors handling animal nuisance issues may be found in the telephone business directory (yellow pages) listed under "wildlife removal services." Many are on-call 24 hours a day.



Itasca Means Business!

The Village of Itasca is proud of its business community and would like to extend a warm welcome to the following companies which recently received Village Board approval to operate in our town:

J&S Auto Body Inc., 1371 Industrial Dr., Unit D. (Auto Repair)

Lighting and Surveillance Inc., 1115 Hilltop Dr. (LED Lighting Distributor)

Five Star Decorating, Inc., 1115 Hilltop Dr. (Painting, Drywall and Finish Carpentry)

The Finer Line, Inc., 1701 Glenlake Ave. (Awards and Promotional Products)

Glass Solutions, 960-1100 Maplewood Dr. (Glass and Glazing Contractor)

Robinson Engineering, 127 N. Walnut Ave. (Municipal and Civil Engineering)





Thank You Officer James Duda

Officer Jim Duda was appointed the Juvenile Officer for the Itasca Police Department in June 2009 and in the spring of 2010 began his nine year tenure as the Itasca school's DARE officer. This year Jim is serving on his last curriculum.

The DARE program serves as an educational tool in which the police department is given the opportunity to speak to students about the perils of drugs and alcohol, bullying, and peer pressure. The DARE program prepares students to make good decisions in life and how to deal with those difficult matters that present themselves as they go through their teen years.

In his time as DARE officer, Jim has taught over 900 students in making safe choices and staying drug-free. Officer Duda started teaching DARE to 6th grade classes in the spring of 2010. His first class of students is now going into their freshman year of college.

Prior to embarking on his career as the Juvenile / DARE officer for Itasca, Officer Duda attended Juvenile Specialist Skills training and DARE officer training.

To keep up with current drug trends and DARE America requirements, Officer Duda attended much training during his tenure. His training incorporated interviewing/interrogating juveniles, law updates, supervising tobacco/liquor compliance checks, effective interventions with juveniles, family violence, basic investigation skills, sexual victimization of children, and bullying prevention. In 2014, the DARE curriculum was changed and Jim attended the IDOA conference for training on the new Illinois curriculum.

When asked about Jim's service as the Itasca Juvenile / DARE officer, Director O'Connor commented: "Officer Duda has embraced his nine year tenure as the Itasca Police Department's Juvenile Officer and has set forth a new standard for the teaching of DARE.

His knowledge and enthusiasm is evident every day that Officer Duda has the opportunity to interact with the kids, teachers and staff of District #10.

I am proud of what Officer Duda has accomplished. He will continue to serve the residents of Itasca in his capacity as a patrol officer and liaison to the senior citizens with the same passion he brought to his previous assignment."

What to do After a Deer-Vehicle Accident

Most deer-vehicle accidents (DVAs) occur during the months of October, November and December. Another peak occurs in May and June as one-year-old deer are dispersing to new areas. However, DVAs can happen at any time of year. Deer are crepuscular, meaning that they are active at dawn and dusk. Thus, it is not surprising that most accidents involving deer happen between the hours of 5 to 10 p.m. and 5 to 8 a.m. While not all deer-vehicle collisions can be prevented, there are steps that drivers can take to avoid an accident.

- The single best way to avoid an accident is to be aware of the surroundings. Pay attention to deer crossing signs, and scan the roadsides for the "eyeshine" of deer (reflection of headlights in the deer's eyes).
- At night, use high-beam lights when appropriate. This may allow the deer to be seen a few seconds earlier, giving the driver enough time to avoid an accident.
- Deer often use woodlots, fencerows, field edges or areas near water. Extra caution is needed when these habitats are close to roadways.
- Slow down around curves in areas where deer are known to occur.
- Slow down and prepare to stop if a deer is along the side of the road. There are likely more deer nearby. Deer will often follow one another single file across a road. Trying to cross through the middle of such a group often results in deer colliding with the side of the vehicle.
- Be prepared for the unexpected. Deer may stop in the middle of the road or decide to double back to the side of the road.
- Hard pavement such as concrete or asphalt provides poor traction for the hard and sharp hooves of deer. They may even fall down.



DuPage River Salt Creek Watershed Workgroup Recommends a “Low Salt” Winter Diet

Salt Improves Winter Driving Conditions, But Too Much Can Harm Ecosystems.

Keeping roads and parking areas free of ice and snow is an essential part of modern life. However, road salt – one of the main tools used to achieve this task – contains chloride as its principal ingredient. Chloride does more than melt snow and ice; it negatively impacts local lakes and rivers. Other minor ingredients of commercial road salt include arsenic and cyanide.

As snow and ice melt, they drain into landscaped areas or storm sewers, and then to natural bodies of water. Waters from a deiced area contain high levels of chlorides, which do not degrade, and there is no cost-effective way to remove them. Excessive levels of chlorides can severely impair the ability of plants to absorb water and nutrients. These negative effects are common to both aquatic and terrestrial plants in residential gardens, landscaped areas, and rivers. Fish and other aquatic organisms are then impacted by the decline in habitat.

How Much Salt is Getting into Our Rivers?

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set total maximum daily loads (TMDL) for chloride in the DuPage River and Salt Creek. These TMDLs state that the legal level of chloride in the rivers is being exceeded, and require that the levels be reduced. In order to investigate current usage of chlorides and possible reduction strategies, the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup conducted a Chloride Usage Education and Reduction Program Study. The study gave a conservative estimate of the annual chloride use in the watersheds of the upper DuPage and Salt Creek, which exceeded 117,000 tons.

Efficient Deicing Protects Landscaping

In addition to harming the ecosystem, overusing chloride can damage residential greenery such as grass, plants and trees, reversing any beautification efforts you have made and damaging your landscape.

What is being done to reduce chloride usage?

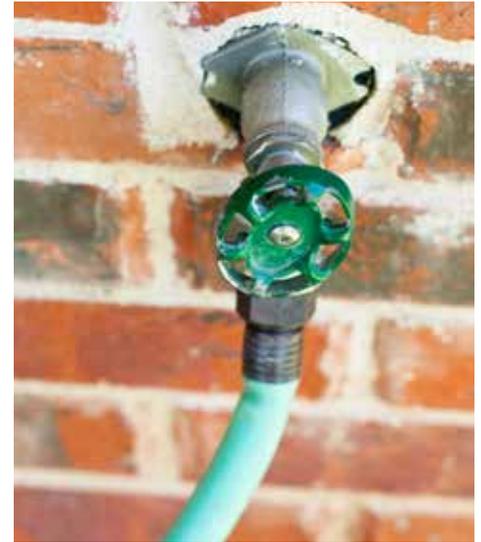
Roads must remain clear to protect public safety, and the Workgroup does not recommend that road salting cease. However, many communities are already employing alternative technologies to deice their roads, such as anti-icing, which applies salt brine to roads when a storm is forecasted, and prevents the formation of ice. Residents can use a similar treatment method by purchasing a deicing alternative to salt available in some groceries and hardware stores. If you must use salt, the Chloride Usage Study recommends employing the “Just Enough” principle – applying just enough salt to keep your property ice-free. You save money and protect the environment at the same time.

What can I do to help?

- Shovel (or use a snow blower) before you use any product; never put a deicing product on top of snow.
- Adopt the “Just Enough” principle, putting down just enough product to keep high traffic areas clear of ice.
- Sweep up un-dissolved product after a storm is over for reuse.
- Consider switching to a non-chloride deicer.
- Support changes in chloride application in your municipality.
- Inform a neighbor about the impacts chlorides have in our streams and rivers.

The DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup

The DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup is a coalition of communities including Itasca, sanitary districts, environmental organizations, and professionals working to improve the ecological health of Salt Creek and the Upper DuPage River. For more information go to www.DRSCW.org.



Preparing for Winter: Outdoor Faucet and Lawn Sprinkler Winterization

If you haven't done so already, it is time to winterize your lawn irrigation systems, outside hose bibs, and faucets.

Lawn irrigation systems require a backflow preventer per the Village's Cross Connection Control Ordinance. If your backflow preventer is located outdoors, remember to remove and store it someplace warm for the winter. Allowing it to freeze is a costly mistake. Remember where you stored it, as you will need to give the backflow preventer to your lawn irrigation contractor or plumber next spring to re-install it.

The Illinois Plumbing Code requires that your backflow preventer be tested immediately upon re-installation of your backflow preventer every season. Annual tests must be performed by a certified tester and be submitted to the Village of Itasca's Cross Connection Control Program contractor, BSI, for compliance. Any questions can be directed to the Village of Itasca Public Works Department at (630) 773-2455.



Preventing Frozen Pipes

Frigid nights can quickly turn to a major home maintenance disaster because of frozen water pipes. In cold and warmer climates alike, pipes freeze for a combination of three main reasons: quick drops in temperature; poor insulation; and thermostats set too low. Both plastic and copper pipes can burst when they freeze, and even a small crack in a pipe can spew up to 250 gallons of water a day, causing flooding, serious structural damage, and the immediate potential for mold. Frozen pipes are largely preventable by taking a few simple precautions.

Your Best Bet: Don't Let It Happen

There are a number of preventative steps you can take to keep your pipes from freezing. Here are a few simple tips:

Before the Cold

You can prepare by protecting your home during the warmer months:

- Insulate pipes in your home's crawl space and attic.
- Heat trap or thermostatically controlled heat cables can be used to wrap pipes. Be sure to use products approved by an independent testing organization, such as Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., and only for the use intended. Closely follow all manufacturer's installation and operation instructions.
- Seal leaks that allow cold air inside near where pipes are located. With severe cold, even a tiny opening can let in enough cold air to cause a pipe to freeze.
- Disconnect garden hoses and, if possible, use an indoor valve to shut off and drain water from pipes leading to outside faucets. This reduces the chance of freezing in the short span of pipe just inside the house.

When the Mercury Drops

Even if you've taken the right preventative steps, extreme weather conditions can still harm your pipes. Take these steps when temperatures fall:

- A trickle of hot and cold water might be all it takes to keep your pipes from freezing. Let warm water drip overnight, preferably from a faucet on an outside wall.
- Keep your thermostat set at the same temperature during both day and night. You might be in the habit of turning down the heat when you're asleep, but further drops in the temperature – more common overnight – could catch you off guard and freeze your pipes.
- Open cabinet doors to allow heat to get to un-insulated pipes under sinks and appliances near exterior walls.

Before You Leave

Traveling in the winter months might be good for the soul, but don't forget to think about your pipes before you leave. What can you do?

- Set the thermostat in your house no lower than 55°F (12°C).
- Ask a friend or neighbor to check your house daily to make sure it's warm enough to prevent freezing.
- Shut off and drain the water system. Be aware that if you have a fire protection sprinkler system in your house, it may be deactivated when you shut off the water.

If Your Pipes Freeze

Despite your best preventative measures, pipes may still freeze. Don't panic, and take the following steps:

- If you turn on your faucets and nothing comes out, leave the faucets turned on and call a plumber.
- Do not use electrical appliances in areas of standing water - You could be electrocuted!
- Never try to thaw a pipe with a torch or other open flame because it could cause a fire hazard. Water damage is preferable to burning down your house.
- If your water pipes have already burst, turn off the water at the main shut-off valve in the house; leave the water faucets turned on. Make sure everyone in your family knows where the water shut-off valve is and how to open and close it.

Village of Itasca Schedule of Monthly Meetings

Monday:	No Meetings Scheduled	Wednesday:	2nd Wednesday – School District #10 – 7:00 pm
Tuesday:	1st Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm, Committee of the Whole immediately after		3rd Wednesday – Plan Commission – 7:00 pm
	3rd Tuesday – Board of Trustees – 7:00 pm, Committee of the Whole immediately after	Thursday:	3rd Thursday – Historical Commission – 7:00 pm
		Friday:	No Meetings Scheduled



Itasca Fire Protection District

In the preceding Village newsletters we shared with you the financial state of the Itasca Fire District and the logic behind seeking a referendum from our residents. In an effort to keep you informed on the state of the Fire District, we have decided to give our residents a brief update in each upcoming newsletter. We will resume that practice starting in the first quarter of 2018. This quarter we wanted to give you an overview on the “microburst” that occurred on July 21st.



Storm Update

- On July 21, 2017 at approximately 5 pm the Village of Itasca was hit with a microburst that caused severe damage to many of the trees, power lines and structures in the Village. Staffing for the District that day was 5 personnel, 3 personnel assigned to the fire engine and 2 personnel assigned to the paramedic unit.
- Within approximately 5 minutes of the event, the Itasca Fire District received approximately 70 calls for service. Most of the calls were for trees on houses, wires down and trees down. As you can well imagine this instantly overwhelmed our duty crew of 5 personnel.
- Mutual Aid crews were requested immediately from Addison, Wood Dale and Elmhurst to assist and prioritize the calls. Addison sent all their duty personnel (3 fire stations) into Itasca to assist. Wood Dale also sent all their duty crews (2 stations) into Itasca to assist and Elmhurst sent us one of their stations to assist. Two Chief Officers from Addison also responded into Itasca to help prioritize and coordinate the types and sheer volume of calls received.
- One of the biggest challenges we faced was the ability to respond into certain areas due to the number of trees and debris laying in the street. Once the Emergency Operations Center was opened at the Village, one of the first things we requested was the roadways to be cleared. Public Works personnel used front end loaders and snow plows to move debris off the roadway to allow us access. The Public Works Division from the Village did an OUTSTANDING job! Not only immediately following the event but also in the weeks after. The Itasca Police Department and all the officers deserve a huge thank you as well as many of them were responding to calls for service along with Fire Department personnel.

On a positive note, the Fire District received no reports of any injuries from the event. The District would also like to say THANK YOU to all the residents that helped clear streets, driveways and sidewalks so we could respond to the 911 calls.



Holiday Safety

The Itasca Fire Protection District would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. It is customary for the District to provide our residents with helpful tips that you can use around the house during the holiday season. This year we would like to direct you to a website that is full of great tips for you covering a wide array of topics such as;

- Holiday decorations
- Candles and fireplaces
- Turkey fryers
- Food preparation
- Holiday traveling

The website belongs to one of our very own companies located in Itasca, The National Safety Council. Their website has many terrific tips, videos and posters that can be viewed and downloaded. Their website is <http://www.nsc.org/learn/safety-knowledge/Pages/news-and-resources-holiday-safety.aspx>



Change is on the way!

In 2015 a community survey was conducted to assess the needs of our patrons. Based on responses received, we concluded that in order to satisfy and address patron concerns our existing interior space would need to be reconfigured. We hired the architect firm Product Architecture + Design to design a plan that would accommodate our needs. The plan is a 3-4 year multiphase project. The execution of the plan **will not incur any tax increase** and will be paid for from reserves we have grown over the years through careful planning and fiscal responsibility.

The furniture and shelving is scheduled to be moved November 27-29. Construction work is expected to start January 2. Library staff will do their best to help you through this transitional period but there may be some areas of the library that will have to be closed off to accommodate the work.

We are planning to stay open through the construction but the safety of our patrons is our primary concern, so if that means closing the library for a day, we may have to do so. Please check our website for any updates. Work on the first phase is expected to be completed by the end of April 2018.

More information will be shared as it becomes available. Please check our website for further details or call Tuki Sathaye, Library Director at (630) 773-1699 Ext. 210.



Youth Services Department

Project Highlights

- Highlight the New Materials collection
- More open seating with additional options for study on both floors
- Additional meeting room and study rooms
- New upstairs vending and café area with additional seating
- Inviting Youth Services Department
- Improve staff workflow with repositioning of service desks and work space areas
- Reposition the adult public computers to the 1st floor, allowing for better staff assistance
- Upgrade a few areas with fresh paint, carpeting, and new furniture



Adult Services Department



New study rooms and seating area on the 2nd floor



Itasca Park District

Maryfran Leno, Executive Director • Phone: (630) 773-2257
e-mail: maryfran@itascaparkdistrict.com

The Itasca Park District was awarded the 2017 National Gold Medal Award from the National Recreation & Parks Association! This is the third time Itasca Park District has won this prestigious award, having won previously in 2003 and 2009. Itasca competed with other park districts across the nation up to a population of 30,000. We are thrilled to have won this award three times; it is a great accomplishment.



Holiday House Decorating Contest

Tue Dec 12 6pm

Free entry and prizes awarded!

Itasca Park District and Village of Itasca Residents, show us your best outdoor holiday decorating! Email your name, address and phone number to Katy at KMcKinnon@itascaparkdistrict.com to register your home.



Follow the Itasca Park District on Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest!

Park News

Schiller Park is being renovated! New equipment with turf safety surfacing, 4 swings, a large play structure with ramped accessibility, slides of 3 different heights, climbers, a picnic table, benches, and more.

The Ray Franzen Bird Sanctuary Project is underway and will include Itasca's first dog park, an ADA accessible trail, nature-themed playground, shelter, and more bordering the Softball Complex on Rohlwing Road. Follow the progress on our Facebook page!

Holiday Gift ideas: give a Fitness Membership, Recreation Gift Certificate or a leaf on the Park District Giving Tree!

Get fit this winter at the Itasca Fitness Center! Drop-in classes include Yoga, Boot Camp, Zumba, and Aqua Aerobics. We have 9 treadmills with cable and internet access. Find out more at www.itascaparkdistrict.com/aerobics. Hope to see you at the Itasca Fitness Center!

Check out our many Easter Events beginning March 14th at: www.itascaparkdistrict.com/Easter



Holiday Events

Free! Santa's Workshop

Fri Dec 8

from 5:30pm-8pm

Sat Dec 9

from 11am-1:30pm

Nature Center

Visit with Santa, enjoy cookies, hot chocolate and create fun holiday crafts!

Santa Visits

Sun Dec 10 5:30-8:30pm Fee: \$25

Your kids will love to have Santa visit their very own home! Santa will stay at each home for 15 minutes. Park District and Village Residents only.

Reindeer Rock

Ages: 3-7yrs

Mon Dec 11 5:30-7pm-8pm Fee: \$15/\$20

Itasca Rec Center

Are you ready for a fun winter evening of reindeer games, crafts and snacks?

Gingerbread House Decorating

Tue Dec 12 6-8pm Fee: \$20

Itasca Rec Center

Come and decorate a pre-baked gingerbread house! Enjoy juice and cookies while listening to Christmas carols. Families are invited to work together.

Breakfast with Mrs. Claus

Sat Dec 16 10am-12pm \$10 per person

Itasca Rec Center

Get ready for some holiday cheer as children enjoy a yummy breakfast and special visit with Mrs. Claus! We'll enjoy holiday music, crafts and the reading of everyone's favorite holiday stories.

Holiday Drop & Shop

Sat Dec 16 12-4pm

\$25 for first child, \$15 per additional sibling

Drop off the kids and finish up the holiday shopping! Kids will enjoy a candy cane hunt, Christmas crafts, lunch, and more.

The **Ice Rink** will be open at the Waterpark Parking Lot this winter! Skating is free! It is safe to skate when the green flag is flying. For skating conditions sign up for text or email notifications at www.itascaparkdistrict.com/notifyme or call the hotline 630-616-7558. Ice Rink address: 100 N. Catalpa

Active Adults age 60+: take some trips with us!



Christkindlmarket Chicago on Dec 20, Chicago Auto Show on Feb 13, and Chicago Flower & Garden Show on Mar 25!

Fees vary per trip.





Itasca Lions Club Christmas Luminaria

The Itasca Lions are proud to continue the tradition of the Christmas Luminaria, which started in Itasca back in 1960 by Boyd and Barbara Hindman. Luminaria have their origin in Mexico and it was the Hindmans who lit the first Christmas Eve Luminaria in the area. The tradition of candle-lit bags lining the walkways and streets on Christmas Eve is symbolic of the “Lighting of the Christ Child’s way home.”

The Lions will be assembling the bags and will distribute them to the homes in the village on Saturday, December 2. Please light your candles at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, December 24 (Rain Date is 5:00 pm on Christmas Day). In 2015, a drone was used to take pictures and a video of the Luminaria as it appears from above, and this may be done again in 2017. All pictures and videos will be made available for public viewing after the event.

The Lions of Itasca appreciate any and all donations for the luminaria. Thanks to the kindness and generosity of the residents, luminaria donations have allowed the Lions Club to continue their mission of helping those in need.

Family Christmas Concert

Please join the Combined Church Choir of Itasca for their 26th Family Christmas Concert. Doors open at 7:00 pm for the 7:30 performance on December 2nd at the newly constructed St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church. A reception follows the concert. The program includes audience participation in familiar sing-alongs, a special number for the children to sing with the orchestra, two handbell selections, four part choir arrangements and orchestral performances.

All proceeds benefit the Itasca Cares charities. Over \$85,000 has been donated in the 25 year history of the concert. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 3-12 and free for those under three. Tickets are being sold at the Itasca Community Library and at the door. For information call 630-773-8518.

Itasca’s Holiday Lights Recycling Drive Tree Dedication Program

The Village of Itasca has partnered with Elgin Recycling for their 7th Annual Holiday Lights Recycling Program. The recycling program will run from Monday, November 27, 2017 until Friday, January 26, 2018. The drop-off collection box will be located in front of the Itasca Police Station at 540 W. Irving Park Road. Residents can drop off their old holiday lights at any time in the labeled receptacles in front of the Police Department. Lights that will be accepted for this program are: Mini-lights (or Italian lights), C7 lights, C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, extension cords, etc.

Year after year, residents find themselves testing bulbs and replacing fuses; when that doesn’t work, the strings of lights often end up in the garbage. With this program, Itasca can now divert all holiday lights that would normally end up in a landfill as recycled goods. One strand of lights here and there may seem as though it doesn’t help, but these small contributions helped the previous year be extremely successful.

For more information about the Holiday Lights Recycling Program please visit www.itasca.com or track Itasca’s progress at www.elginrecycling.com.

Each year, on Arbor Day at the end of April, the Village of Itasca dedicates trees in the Village Arboretum surrounding the Village Hall in memory of departed loved ones and in commemoration of special events. The dedication program is available to all Itasca residents and former residents.

To have an existing tree in the Village’s arboretum dedicated to commemorate a special event (ex. birth, anniversary) or to honor the memory of a departed loved one, please contact Mr. Fred Maier (fmaier@itasca.com) no later than April 10th, 2018. An existing tree in the Village’s arboretum can be dedicated for \$250.00, which covers the cost of installing a plaque set on a post to the south side of the tree, identifying the tree species, who or what the tree is dedicated for, and who dedicated it. You will also receive a certificate acknowledging the tree dedication that will include all the information found on the plaque.

The formal ceremonies for the tree dedications will take place on Saturday, April 28th, 2018 beginning at 1:00 pm at the Itasca Village Hall. Please see the Spring Village newsletter for more details about the ceremonies.

For more information or to download a tree dedication order form, please visit the Village website: <http://www.itasca.com/index.aspx?nid=1151>.

Celebrate Our Community

December 2017

Dec. 2		Dec. 4	Dec. 5	Dec. 6	Dec. 6
Family Christmas Concert St. Peter Catholic Church 7:30 p.m. Tickets available at the Itasca Library Contact Linda Alani at 630-773-8518		Teen Cooking Club: Holly Jolly Treats (Grades 6-12) Itasca Library 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Teen Cooking Club: Holly Jolly Treats (Grades 6-12) Itasca Library 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Holiday LEGO (Grades K-5) Itasca Library 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Beautiful Bows Learn to make beautiful bows. All supplies will be provided. Registration required. 7:00 p.m. Itasca Library
Dec. 8		Dec. 9	Dec. 10	Dec. 12	Dec. 12
Santa's Workshop Enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, make crafts and visit with Santa. Free Family Event at the Springbrook Nature Center. 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Itasca Park District		Santa's Workshop Enjoy cookies, hot chocolate, make crafts and visit with Santa. Free Family Event at the Springbrook Nature Center. 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Itasca Park District	Visits from Santa in Your Home! Fee: \$25.00 Itasca Park District & Village Residents Only 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Night With Santa Complimentary ornaments & tote bags (while supplies last) Itasca Library 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Gingerbread House Decorating Fee: \$20.00 per family Itasca Park District 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Dec. 12		Dec. 14	Dec. 14	Dec. 16	Dec. 16
House Decorating Contest Must register to participate Contact: KMCKinnon@itascaparkdistrict.com		Christmas Storytime (Geared to ages 3-6) Itasca Library 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Holiday Gift Giving Boxes (Grades 6-12) Itasca Library 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Breakfast With Mrs. Claus Fee: \$10.00 Itasca Park District 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Holiday Drop & Shop Fee: \$25 for first child / \$15 for additional Itasca Park District 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Dec. 17		Dec. 20	Dec. 22		
		Letters to Santa Free! Sign up by Dec. 16 Itasca Park District	Christkindlmarket Senior Trip (Age 60+) Fee: \$10.00 Leave from Itasca Park District	Drop-In Christmas Crafts (All Ages) Itasca Library 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	
Nov. 13 - Dec. 13		Nov. 27 - Dec. 29	All Month Long	All Month Long	
 Sponsored by Itasca Fire Protection District Collections for new unwrapped toys will be taken at the Itasca Library and Itasca Park District. Itasca Fire Department 630-773-1223		Mitten & Hat Tree Hang winter wear donations for needy children on the Village of Itasca's Mitten and Hat Tree located in the Itasca Village Hall.	Itasca Food Pantry Collection of Food & Household Necessities Itasca Food Pantry 336 W. Center Street, Itasca Drop off items Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Itasca Walk-In Ministry Monetary donations taken to give to people in need within our community. Open Wed. 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. IWIM 630-467-0133	

Most programs listed above require registration. Please call the Library or Park District to register.



Village of Itasca
630-773-0835
itasca.com



Itasca Community Library
630-773-1699
itascalibrary.org



Itasca Police Department
630-773-1004
itascapolice.com



Itasca Park District
630-773-2257
itascaparkdistrict.com



Village of Itasca
 550 W. Irving Park Rd.
 Itasca, IL 60143
 630-773-0835
 www.itasca.com

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The Village News is the official publication of the Village of Itasca.

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**Village Departments and
 Taxing Districts**

- Village Administrator 773-0835
- Village Clerk's Office 773-0835
- Community Development 773-5568
- Public Works 773-2455
- Wastewater Treatment Plant 773-5571
- Police Department 773-1004
- non-emergency
- Emergency 9-1-1
- Itasca Chamber of Commerce 773-2949
- Springbrook Nature Center 773-5572
- Library 773-1699
- School District #10 773-1232
- Park District 773-2257
- Fire District 773-1223
- non-emergency
- Emergency 9-1-1

O'Hare Noise Hotline

- Complaints 800-435-9569

We would like to hear from you!

As a resident of Itasca, my comment or question is ...

Please drop off or mail to:
 Village of Itasca, 550 W. Irving Park Rd., Itasca, IL 60143
 Please include your name, address, and telephone number if you require a response. E-mail us at feedback@itasca.com.