

The WAUCONDA WIRE

SUMMER 2021



Crosswalk & Road Construction Awareness

With longer daylight hours, warmer weather and schools out of session for the summer, PLEASE be extra watchful as there will be an increase in pedestrian traffic at crosswalks, motorcyclists, and bicyclists on the roadway.

TIPS FOR PEDESTRIANS:

- Make eye contact with motorists to be sure they see you
- Be alert and walk defensively, looking in both directions
- Watch for vehicles making a turn near the crosswalk
- Wear bright or reflective clothing at night

TIPS FOR DRIVERS:

- Be prepared to stop at all crosswalks and ALWAYS stop for pedestrians

- Avoid all distractions and pay attention to the road
- Never pass another vehicle that has stopped or is slowing down at a crosswalk
- Obey the speed limit at all times (**20 MPH downtown**)

WORK ZONE SAFETY



Projects are launched each year to improve roads, bridges, drainage systems and highways for both safety and efficiency. Do your part and use caution when in the construction zones.

Whether driving to work or for pleasure, keep in mind that road construction zones can be extremely dangerous for drivers, passengers and road workers. The following tips are

(continued on page 8)

Community Calendar

- June 14** *Flag Day*
- June 15** Wauconda Cruise Night
- June 20** *Father's Day*
- June 24-27** Wauconda Fest
- July 3** Independence Day Fireworks
- July 4** *Independence Day*
- July 5** Village Hall closed
Prairieland Service Delay
- July 8 - Sept 30** Farmers' Market
Thursdays
- July 17** Wauconda Kids Triathlon
- July 18** Wauconda Triathlon
- July 20** Wauconda Cruise Night
- Aug 3** *National Night Out*
- Aug 17** Wauconda Cruise Night

**Events are subject to change due to CDC and IDPH guidance*



Mayor's Message

Jeff A. Sode

As your newly elected mayor, I would first and foremost like to thank every one of you for your support. I am honored to serve the great residents and businesses of Wauconda, and I look forward to working with each of you over the course of my term to further enhance our wonderful community.

I would also like to extend a heartfelt thanks to my predecessor Lincoln Knight, as well as outgoing Village Clerk Cheryl Falk-Novak and outgoing Trustee Rich Morino. Through their dedication and service, they have each made innumerable contributions to improving our quality of life in the Village. If you see them around town, please thank them for their many efforts over the years.

With the recent election, I would like to welcome a few new faces to the Village board. GiGi Radcliffe will now serve as Village Clerk, and Jennifer Kuhn will serve as Trustee. Tim Howe and Adam Schlick were also re-elected to their previous positions as Trustees. I thank each of them for their commitment to serve.

On May 14 Illinois entered the Bridge Phase, which increased capacity limits for many of our businesses and gatherings. As you know, this is the last phase before Phase 5, which lifts COVID-19 restrictions entirely. We are hopeful that the Village can fully open within the next few weeks, and we are currently planning to hold some of our annual summer events, including the Farmer's Market, Cruise Night, and Wauconda Fest.

Still, even as regulations ease up, we must remain cautious and vigilant. If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19—including, but not limited to, fever and/or chills, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste and/or smell—please stay home. Please continue to follow all CDC guidelines. If you attend one of our local events, please also follow the specific event guidelines. These guidelines are in place for your health and safety, as well as the health and safety of those around you. This is a community effort, and I have faith that if we work together, we can put the restrictions of the last year in our rearview mirror. We cannot afford to go backwards.

Further, if you are not yet comfortable being around so many people, do not feel pressure to change your routine and/or stay home. Do whatever makes you feel safe. Your friends and neighbors will not criticize or begrudge you for taking your own personal safety into account.

Finally, over the summer, we will be repaving some Village roads and performing other repairs. Please exercise caution whenever you are around a construction area. If you have children, please make sure they know not to play or congregate near these sites. Construction workers may not be able to see or hear kids in the vicinity as they work, which can make these areas very dangerous.

I wish you all a safe, happy, and enjoyable summer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff A. Sode". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Summer Safety

As Illinoisans, summer is often the most highly anticipated season of the year. Be mindful of the threat of overexposure, heat exhaustion, bee-stings and other concerns.

- Stay hydrated
- NEVER leave a child or pet in a vehicle unattended
- NEVER leave your child unattended around pools or at the beach
- Plan your days according to the weather
- Avoid strenuous exercise on particularly hot days
- Apply sunscreen and limit sun exposure
- Familiarize yourself with local cooling stations, in the event that you lose your air conditioning

Wauconda Honors Banner Program

The Village of Wauconda, in partnership with the Wauconda American Legion Post 911, is proud to introduce the 2021 Wauconda Honors banners, which are currently displayed on Main Street. This program serves to honor and recognize the men and women from the Village of Wauconda who have served our country and protected our freedom in the US Military.

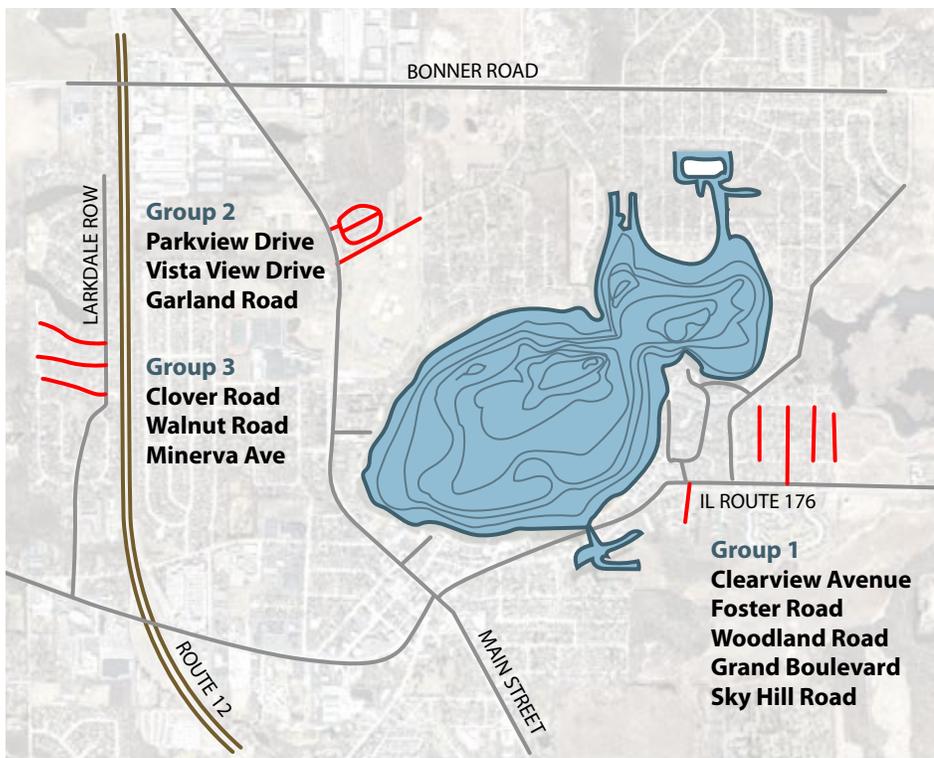
Each year, fourteen Veterans adorn the street banners on Main Street from Route 176 to Slocum Lake Road. Passers-by will have the opportunity to honor those individuals from Memorial Day weekend through Veterans Day. Sponsorships are available for \$300.00 per banner and the limited spaces fill quickly. If you are interested in sponsoring a banner, please visit the Village of Wauconda website at wauconda-il.gov/352/Honors-Banner-Program and complete the sponsorship form.

2021 Street Improvement Project

This August the Village is scheduled to perform over \$1 million in various street improvements throughout the Village. Streets that will be included in this summer's program include: Clearview Avenue, Foster Road, Woodland Road, Grand Blvd., Sky Hill Road, Parkview Drive, Vista View Drive, Clover Road, Minerva Avenue, Walnut Road and the Village's portion of Garland Road.

The resurfacing project will take approximately 5 to 6 weeks to complete and is typically completed in 6 separate phases. Those phases include localized concrete repairs, full or partial depth asphalt removal and grading, asphalt replacement, manhole adjustments, final layer asphalt placement, and final landscape restoration if needed. Motorists are encouraged to slow down when driving through or near any road construction site and be alert for construction workers and law enforcement officers. Once the surface is removed and before the new layer of asphalt is applied, the street will have a rough surface. Drivers, cyclists and pedestrians should use caution, especially near protruding manhole covers.

The Village's Street Improvement Program is funded by Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) revenues and one-time grant proceeds from the REBUILD Illinois grant program.



Façade Improvement Program

The Village of Wauconda is proud to announce the roll out of the Façade Improvement Program. This program is designed to stimulate and incentivize the beautification of the built environment in the commercial corridors of the Village. Visit the Village of Wauconda website at wauconda-il.gov/facadeimprovementprogram or call Community Development at 847-526-9609 for more information.



Rate Increase

The rates for residential waste, recycling, and landscape waste service through Prairieland Disposal, Inc. are scheduled to increase later this summer. Effective September 1, the new rates will be as follows:

Unlimited Service:

95-Gallon Cart
\$24.42 per month
(includes up to 15 bags of yard waste / food organics collection per week from April 1st through the second week in December).

Limited Service:

35 and 65 Gallon Cart
\$23.38 per month

Yard waste, refuse, and bulk waste sticker
\$3.21 per sticker

Service plan and cart size changes are also accepted at this time for no additional fee. Please contact Prairieland Disposal, Inc. at 847-381-9300 for more information or to change your service selection.



To explore the local recycling programs available to Wauconda residents, visit SWALCO.org/360/Wauconda---Neighborhood-Programs or call 847-377-4950.

Village Ordinance & Property Maintenance Reminders

Notify the Village of any violations or unsafe conditions by visiting the website at wauconda-il.gov and submit your concern through the Service Request System (SRS). Users may submit anonymously or create an account.

- All properties, including vacant homes and lots, shall not allow grass or weeds to grow in excess of eight (8) inches in height.
- Homeowners are responsible for any tree, bush, shrub or hedge which originates on their property and causes an unsafe situation or blocks a public sidewalk. Maintain and keep the right-of-way clear of obstructions.
- Keep your property in clean, safe, and sanitary condition at all times. Remove all trash and debris from property.
- Maintain your fence, shed, home, and garage. Avoid deterioration or rotting. Ensure that all electrical wiring and exterior equipment is secured and safe. Do not defer maintenance to your home or structure's foundation, walls or roof.
- Parking a motor vehicle upon grass, dirt, or area of the property of a dwelling unit other than a driveway is prohibited.
- Abandoned or inoperable motor vehicles, whether on private or public property are prohibited within the Village limits.

POTENTIAL CAUSES OF HIGH-WATER BILLS

An unusually high water bill is most often caused by a leak or change in water use. Some common causes of high water bills include:

- A leaking toilet, or a toilet that continues to run after being flushed (see below for additional information)
- A dripping faucet; a faucet drip can waste 20 gallons of water a day or more
- Filling or topping off a swimming pool
- Watering the lawn, new grass, or trees; also check for an open hose bib
- Water-cooled air conditioners
- Water softener problems – continuously running
- Kids home for summer vacations or school holidays; house guests
- Humidifiers on furnace
- A broken pipe or obvious leak; check the pipes in the basement or crawl-space; the water heater could also be leaking
- Running the water to avoid freezing pipes during cold weather

Generally, water consumption is higher during the summer due to watering of lawns, pools, and gardening. Typically, an average family of four uses 6,000 to 8,000 gallons of water a month. Here are a few things to check if you get a bill that's higher than usual.

TOILET AND FAUCET LEAKS

The most common cause for a high-water bill is running water from your toilet. A continuously running toilet can waste up to 200 gallons a day or more depending on the leak. Toilet leaks should be fixed as soon as possible. Some leaks are easy to find, such as a dripping faucet or running toilet. You can usually hear a running toilet, but not always. See the toilet assessment below for help in determining if this is the cause of your high water bill.

DO-IT-YOURSELF TOILET ASSESSMENT

First check for the most common leak: a deteriorated or defective flush valve flapper ball at the bottom of the toilet tank. If it does not make a tight seal water will leak into the toilet bowl. To check for this:

- Take the lid off of the tank behind the bowl
- Put a few drops of dye or a colored dye tab (*available at the Village Hall*) in the tank
- Wait at least 20 minutes; longer if you suspect it is a small leak

If there is any color in the toilet bowl, there is a leak.

The second most common type of leak has to do with an improperly adjusted or broken fill (*ballcock*) valve. To check for this, take the lid off of the toilet tank, flush, and see if water is draining into the overflow tubes when the tank is full.



The following table shows the amount of water that can be lost (*and billed to your account*) for various sized leaks:

LEAK SIZE	GALLONS PER DAY	GALLONS PER MONTH
Dripping leak	15 gallons	450 gallons
1/32 in. leak	264 gallons	7,920 gallons
1/16 in. leak	943 gallons	28,300 gallons
1/8 in. leak	3,806 gallons	114,200 gallons
1/4 in. leak	15,226 gallons	456,800 gallons
1/2 in. leak	60,900 gallons	1,827,000 gallons

CHANGES IN YOUR WATER USE

Did you have house guests, water your lawn more than usual, or do anything else out of the ordinary in the last month that uses a lot of water? If so, this may account for an increase in your water bill.

CHECK FOR LEAKS

Leaks, whether unseen or unfixed, can waste hundreds and even thousands of gallons of water. It is important to routinely check your plumbing and home for leaky faucets, toilets, hot water tanks, water softener and outside taps and irrigation lines.

OUTDOOR AND UNDERGROUND LEAKS

Check outdoor spigots and crawl spaces, and look for wet spots in your yard, which may indicate a leak.

IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

During the summer, irrigation systems are a common source of high-water use. Watering times generally double during the summer months compared to the winter. Automated irrigation systems should be checked regularly to be sure they are functioning properly and have no leaks or broken sprinkler heads. If a sprinkler valve sticks on, it could waste an extremely large quantity of water. The irrigation timer may not be programmed properly; i.e. sprinklers are watering too often and/or for too long. Reprogramming may be necessary if the power has been off.

WATER SOFTENERS

Customers with water softeners have higher water bills due to the regeneration or backwash cycles their systems go through. The systems are preset to regenerate or backwash on a regular basis. The systems will use water to clean the filter media and discharge the wastewater. There are times when these systems will get stuck in a cycle which will cause higher water use.

WHAT CAN I DO IF MY BILL IS UNUSUALLY HIGH?

If you receive a bill that you feel is too high, check over the common causes listed above. This may help to pinpoint the source of the high bill. If you feel that your water bill is too high, call 847-526-9604. Property owners are responsible for all private service water lines from the shut-off valve (buffalo box) to the residence and for leaks inside the home.

(Village Ordinance continued)

- No more than 2 recreational vehicles can be stored on a residential property. Length limitations for a single vehicle is 30 feet with a combined total of 45 feet for two. They shall not encroach on the public right-of-way and shall not exceed 6 tons.
- Open burning is prohibited within the Village limits. Residents are allowed to have recreational fires as long as they meet all guidelines set forth in the Village code and are in an approved device.

Parking Restrictions

Parking isn't allowed on Village streets between 2 am and 6 am. If you are unable to move your car, please submit an overnight parking request through the *Frontline Public Safety Solutions* portal located on the home page of the Village website. All information gathered will be added to a secure database to ensure a citation is not issued.

Noise Restrictions

Whether it is a barking dog or a family gathering, be considerate of your neighbors and avoid excessive noise between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am, Sunday through Thursday and 11 pm and 7 am during weekends and holidays.

Inspection Permit for Boat / Watercraft Stickers

The Village of Wauconda requires a safety inspection permit for each boat or watercraft that utilizes Bangs Lake. Please contact the Marine Patrol Unit at the Wauconda Police Department by phone at 847-526-2421 or email maiardo@WaucondaPolice.com to obtain an inspection permit.

Main Street Reminders

Help do your part to keep Main Street clean and keep unnecessary waste out of our landfills. Utilize the 10 bins that have clear indicators for both 'Trash' and 'Bottles/Cans' and please be mindful of which bin you use. Recycling contamination occurs when materials are disposed of in the wrong bin. Incorrect disposal can cause the items to be rejected and sent to the landfill, resulting in wasted recycling efforts.

Early Season Mosquito Control Work

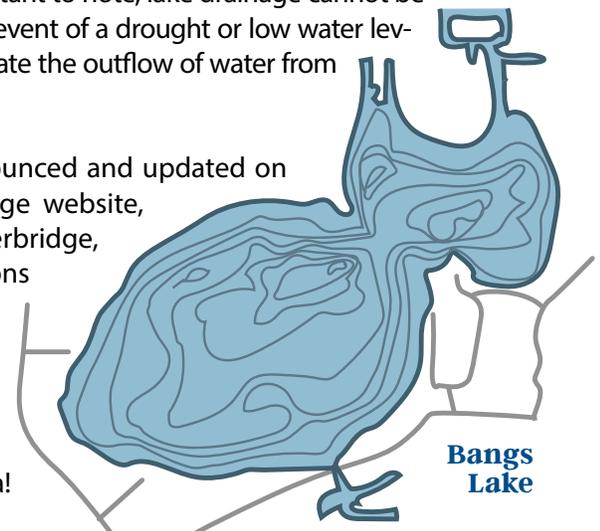
Mosquito season is upon us. Throughout the summer you can expect to see Clarke technicians out inspecting standing water sites, treating catch basins, and setting and checking traps. If you would like to report high levels of nuisance mosquitos or register for the notifications, please visit the clarkeportal.com/hotline or by calling 1-800-942-2555.



Bangs Lake Status – Visit Wauconda-il.gov

The Village manages the water level on Bangs Lake in order to reduce the likelihood of flooding, to minimize shoreline erosion, and to ensure adequate lake elevation to allow for weed harvesting. When the lake elevation reaches 10.0 inches above normal mean water elevation, Bangs Lake is considered restricted and is placed into a 'No Wake' status. At 12.0 inches above, the Village has the authority to close the lake to all activities. It is important to note, lake drainage cannot be expedited, only restricted. In the event of a drought or low water levels, control bars are used to regulate the outflow of water from Bangs Lake.

Lake status information is announced and updated on all social media sites, the Village website, and notifications through Everbridge, our emergency alert notifications system. Follow us on [@Wauconda60084](https://www.facebook.com/Wauconda60084) [Village_of_Wauconda](https://www.instagram.com/Village_of_Wauconda) or visit the website at www.wauconda-il.gov to keep informed of all things Wauconda!



The Bangs Lake Status quick link located on the Village's website homepage will be illustrated with a flag indicating  OPEN,  Open but NO WAKE, and  CLOSED to all traffic.

Summer Road Closures Reminders

The Village of Wauconda is a vibrant and active community and as such, there are many wonderful events that happen downtown. Please mark your calendars and plan accordingly for the following events which require road closures or cause congestion:

- **June 15** Wauconda Cruise Night (*Downtown Main Street and side-streets*)
- **June 24 -27** Wauconda Fest (*North Main Street*)
- **July 3** Fireworks (*North Main Street*)
- **July 8 – Sept 30** Thursdays Farmer's Market (*Downtown Main Street*)
- **July 17 & 18** Wauconda Triathlon (*various locations throughout Village*)
- **July 20** Wauconda Cruise Night (*Downtown Main Street and side-streets*)
- **August 17** Wauconda Cruise Nights (*Downtown Main Street and side-streets*)

Lawn Watering & Water Conservation Rules

A permanent outdoor water conservation period is in effect from June 1 through September 15 each year. This conservation measure permits watering at any time of the day on an alternating daily basis. Street addresses ending with even-numbers are permitted to use outside water at any time on even numbered calendar days and street addresses ending in odd-numbers will be allowed to use outdoor water at any time on odd numbered calendar days. Residents with new landscape plantings may water more frequently with a permit. Please contact Community Development for a permit.

Do I Need a Permit to Install a Lawn Sprinkler System?

A permit is required to install, repair, replace, or relocate any lawn sprinkler system. Only a contractor possessing an irrigation registration card (*issued by the Illinois Department of Public Health*) is permitted to work on a lawn irrigation system. The irrigation system must have a RPZ backflow preventer and a separate water meter may be installed at the owner's request. The backflow device must be certified annually before May 31.

To apply for the permit, complete the permit application at the Community Development Department. The permit fee is \$100.00. A plat of survey depicting the proposed location of the system is required for the permit application. Additional requirements and water meter information can be obtained by calling Utility Billing 847-526-9604. Additional requirements and information can be found on the Village website at wauconda-il.gov FAQ's.

Why Does the Village Sometimes Open and Flow Fire Hydrants?

The Village maintains over 950 fire hydrants throughout Wauconda. One of the best ways to ensure that hydrants are functioning properly is to test or flush them routinely. The Public Works Water Division flushes hydrants each year to ensure that they are functioning properly. Hydrant flushing is scheduled for this summer and signs will be posted on the hydrants a week prior.

Please note that when a hydrant or hydrants are flushed in your area, the water from your faucets may become temporarily discolored. If this occurs, residents are advised to run water for a few minutes before use. This is especially important before doing laundry. Please call Wauconda Public Works at 847-526-9610 or submit your concern through the Service Request System (SRS) found on the Village of Wauconda website wauconda-il.gov.

Avoid Flood Damage

To reduce potential damage due to flooding caused by heavy seasonal rains, monitor your sump pumps to make sure they are working properly. Regularly clean debris from gutters and downspouts. Elevate heating units, air conditioning units, water heaters, etc. to raised platforms. Extend downspouts and make sure they are turned away from your home.

Summer Meeting Schedule

JUNE

June 1

Village Services 4:30 pm
Village Board Meeting 6:00 pm

June 8

Economic Development

June 14*

License & Administration
Village Board Meeting

June 22

Natural Resources

JULY

July 6

Village Services 4:30 pm
Village Board Meeting 6:00 pm

July 13

Economic Development

July 19*

License & Administration
Village Board Meeting

July 27

Natural Resources

AUGUST

Aug 2*

Village Services 4:30 pm
Village Board Meeting 6:00 pm

Aug 10

Economic Development

Aug 16*

License & Administration
Village Board Meeting

Aug 24

Natural Resources

* Indicates a date change due to special event



101 North Main Street
Wauconda, IL 60084

Mayor Jeff A. Sode

Village Board Members

Chuck Black Adam Schlick Jennifer Kuhn
Tim Howe Tom Shaw

Village Clerk Virginia "Gigi" Radcliffe

Village Hall 847-526-9600

Public Works 847-526-9610

Community Development 847-526-9609

Utility Billing 847-526-9604

Police Non-Emergency 847-526-2421

@VillageofWauconda

@Wauconda60084

Village of Wauconda

Wauconda_60084

Village of Wauconda, Illinois

A translated version of the newsletter is available on the Village website at wauconda-il.gov/Newsletters. *Una versión traducida del boletín informativo está disponible en el sitio web de la Ciudad en: wauconda-il.gov/Newsletters*

Wauconda-Il.gov

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Crosswalk & Road Construction Awareness continued from page 1)

important reminders to think about while traveling:

- Check traffic reports before you leave and plan accordingly
- Flaggers are used to control traffic - obey their signals
- Slow down, be alert and pay attention to the signs
 - *Keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead of you*
 - *Follow the posted speed limits*
 - *Work zone traffic lanes are narrower than other lanes and traffic patterns change often*
 - *Pavement may be uneven in sections*
- Penalties in work zone are more severe
- Keep your eyes on the road and off of your phone or any other distraction
- Give large trucks and heavy vehicles more room - they need more time to slow down and speed up

Be patient, stay calm and stay alert. Work zone members are working to improve the roadway and make your future travels safer and better.

WORK ZONE AWARENESS
Drive Like You Work Here

Work Zone Safety Tips

- Drop it and drive.
- Pay attention. Conditions can change quickly.
- Move over for workers.
- Remember; Traffic backups can occur at any time.
- Give heavy vehicles room to adjust to conditions.
- Slow down and obey speed limits.

Illinois Department of Transportation