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Reminder: No Parking 2am-6am on Village Streets
Greetings! As I write this newsletter in late February, it is an amazing 57 degrees! Many hearts and minds are turning to spring. People are walking, jogging, and biking along our many miles of paths and connecting to one another with a ‘hello,’ nod, smile, or pet of dog.

This year our focus at Village Hall is connections:
- Connecting with our residents
- Connecting with businesses
- Connecting with nature
- Connecting for our future

In my recent State of the Village address (see highlights on page 9) I outlined how we plan to achieve each of these connections. Your Village staff and board are working together to plan, investigate, and execute on your behalf.

I am excited about Oswego’s future. It is filled with both challenges and opportunities. I believe that connecting continuously and simultaneously in these crucial areas will keep us poised to meet the challenges and take advantage of each opportunity creating a bold, balanced, and bountiful Oswego.

Enjoy the longer days, warmer temperatures, and budding opportunities in the weeks ahead. If you’d like to connect directly with me, please do not hesitate to email or call: Gjohnson@oswegoil.org or 630-554-1555.

Gail Johnson
Village President
From the Village Clerk

SPRING 2016 ELECTION

Early Voting
Village Hall, Community Room
February 29, 2016 to March 10, 2016
M-F 8:00am-7:00pm
Saturday 8:00am-2:00 pm

General Primary Election- March 15, 2016
Village Hall, Community Room
6:00am-7:00 pm

Kendall County Clerk’s Office is in need of Election Judges.
Qualifications:
To be eligible to serve as an election judge, you must be:
• A citizen of the United States
• A resident of Kendall County
• A registered voter
• Be able to speak, read, and write in English
• Be of good understanding and capable of performing duties

For more information, please visit the County Clerk’s web page at:
http://www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/16132-2/

ordianes Approved
November 3, 2015-
January 19, 2016

HOW TO VIEW

• Ordinances Approved
November 3, 2015-
January 19, 2016

25

• Approved ordinances may be viewed on the Village’s website at www.oswegoil.org

When I say “good,”
you say “neighbor.”
Now that's teamwork.
CALL FOR A QUOTE 24/7

Janna Misek Ins Agcy Inc
Janna Misek, Agent
1136 Douglas Road
Oswego, IL 60543
Bus: 630-554-1540
JannaMisek.com

Just Like you, We’ve made Oswego our Home!
We are here to help our community grow!

Here is how we are helping the growth in Oswego:
• Millennium Sponsor of Oswego PrairieFest
• Contributed $20,000 in scholarships to Oswego and Oswego East High Schools
• $10,000 in athletic donations to both high schools
• Platinum Oswego Chamber member
• Founder of the Oswego Crosstown Challenge
• Financing local business growth

Oswego’s only True Community Bank

State Farm®
PO97141  State Farm Home Office, Bloomington, IL

Spring Recycling Extravaganza
Saturday, April 23rd

Community Garage Sale
Friday, May 13th & Saturday, May 14th

Fox River Cleanup
Saturday, August 6th

www.alliedfirst.com
3201 ORCHARD RD, OSWEGO
PH: 630-554-8899
YOUR HIGH-TECH BANK
with the Home Town Touch
Preventing Crime within the Community  
By: Officer Rob Sherwood

The Oswego Police would like to remind the community as spring and summer arrive of a few measures helpful in preventing crime within the community. As we experience an increase in foot traffic in our neighborhoods during warmer weather, we also experience an increase in motor vehicle burglaries. Although we have seen an overall decrease in reported car burglaries over the past few years, it is important to remain vigilant.

As most of these crimes are attributed to the warm weather as previously mentioned, Oswego Police would like to arm you with some very simple ways to reduce the likelihood of you becoming victimized. The Oswego Police recommends to every member of the community the following:

- If you have a garage, secure your vehicle in the garage overnight.
- If you have a garage, ensure the garage door is closed and secure.
- If you do not have a garage, ensure all of your vehicle doors are locked.
- Remove all valuables from the vehicle before retiring for the evening.
- Park your vehicle in well-lit areas or where there are motion lights.
- If you have a GPS on your window, remove it for the night and take it inside with you.
- If you secure the GPS in your glove compartment, ensure there are no circular suction cup marks that can easily be seen on the windshield from the outside, as this will alert the would-be offender.
- If shopping in the community, please keep valuables left in your car out of plain sight.
- If you find your vehicle was burglarized, DO NOT TOUCH the vehicle and call 911 as not to disturb or disrupt potential evidence of the crime.

In addition to taking these crime-reducing precautions, the Oswego Police ask that you do not hesitate to report to police any suspicious activity you may observe within the community. As always, the Oswego Police take great pride in servicing your community, and we value your individual freedom and the right to feel safe.

Village Moving Forward with New Police Facility

The Oswego Police Department will have a new home in 2018, allowing it to more effectively meet Oswego’s public safety needs now and in the future.

The Village Board recently gave the green light to move forward with planning for the new facility, on a site expected to be announced in the next few months. The new facility will serve a growing community that is expected to double in population by the year 2040.

The need for a new facility was established in 2008, when a space analysis showed that the police department had already outgrown its current facility. The facility, which was built in the early 1990s to accommodate up to 50 employees, currently houses 70 employees.

As the recession loomed, the Village deferred consideration of a new police facility. With the improving economy, the Village is anticipating growth to continue in Oswego. Continued growth will place additional demand on Oswego’s Police Department, which has already outgrown its current facility.

Aside from size, the current facility has a number of operational constraints, including accessibility of a community/meeting room, inadequate patrol vehicle and visitor parking, inability to accommodate juvenile and adult detention concurrently, lack of work space, and other significant restrictions.

The Village considered a number of alternatives to a new facility. Expansion on the current site is not feasible due to the limited size of the site. The Village also considered “swapping” facilities with Village Hall; however this option proved impractical since the Village Hall building does not meet the stronger construction standards required for critical public safety facilities.

Given these considerations, the Board authorized the staff to update the space needs assessment with architectural firm McClaren, Wilson and Lawrie, Inc., which specializes in public safety building analysis. MWL was asked to determine the cost for a building that will accommodate Oswego’s full projected population of up to 70,000 residents. The consultant recommended an 80,000 square foot building with an estimated cost of $34 million. Staff worked with the consultant to identify additional space efficiencies and a phased approach, to come to an ultimate budget of $30 million. The Village plans to issue bonds for the building, funded through the 0.75% home rule sales tax, which went into effect January 1, 2016. Municipal property taxes will not be increased to fund this project, in fact, the Village Board recently voted to reduce the Village’s portion of the property tax rate this year.

The next step is to hire the right team to design and build the facility. MWL will continue to provide professional guidance, advising the Village in areas of police facility design and construction. The Village will use a competitive process to ensure the best firms are brought on to the project team, and will continue to identify cost savings and efficiencies. The end result will be a high quality facility designed to withstand the 24-7 demands of a police department and a growing community.

The Oswego Police would like to remind the community as spring and summer arrive of a few measures helpful in preventing crime within the community. As we experience an increase in foot traffic in our neighborhoods during warmer weather, we also experience an increase in motor vehicle burglaries. Although we have seen an overall decrease in reported car burglaries over the past few years, it is important to remain vigilant.
Economic Development News

■ 2015 HIGHLIGHTS: STAKEHOLDERS WORKED TOGETHER TO CREATE A MORE DESIRABLE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

Creating a sustainable, flexible, and desirable business environment requires a number of stakeholders to pull together to develop the desired outcome. In 2015, the Village created the Oswego Economic Development Commission (EDC) to assist the Village’s economic development department in its efforts to attract new businesses and encourage expansion of existing businesses. Here are the significant highlights of 2015.

■ OSWEGO APPROVES LOAN FOR SAGES MEAT MARKET

The Village Board approved a $55,000 low-interest loan to help Sages Meat Market to expand in the Oswego Plaza shopping center at Route 71 and Plainfield Road after a positive recommendation from the Village’s Economic Development Commission. The business owners applied for financial help to purchase kitchen equipment and cover buildout expenses. The revolving loan program was established to help viable small businesses that are unable to qualify for loans from traditional sources. For more information, visit: www.oswegoil.org/ED and look under Business Resources.

■ NEW BUSINESSES

Shop, Dine & Experience! Check out the stores that have opened recently and stores that are expected to open soon.

Now Open
Anytime Fitness, a 24-hour health and fitness club, is open at 2958 Route 34 in the Oswego Commons shopping center. Website: www.anytimefitness.com

Opening soon
Five Below, a discount store aimed at teens and pre-teens, is getting ready to open in March in the Prairie Market shopping center at Route 34. Website: www.fivebelow.com

Andy’s Frozen Custard plans to open in summer 2016 on the outlot at LA Fitness. They will employ over 20 people and will be investing about $1.2 million in building construction and kitchen equipment. Website: www.eatandys.com

■ CONTACT US

Visit our website for vacancy reports on retail, office, and industrial properties and to sign up for monthly ED e-Newsletter: www.oswegoil.org/ED. 630-551-2334 * vgadde@oswegoil.org
The Oswego Historic Preservation Commission is proud to introduce the homes at 441 and 444 Douglas Street as the Spring 2016 Properties of the Season.

The area south of downtown and bounded roughly by South Main Street, Fuller Avenue, South Madison Street and Judson Avenue was platted in 1903 by Frank O. Hawley and is known as “Hawley’s Addition to Oswego.” Records indicate that Mr. Layton Lippold acquired 444 Douglas Street (Lot 7 in Block 2) in April of 1929 and 441 Douglas Street (Lot 12 in Block 1) in December of 1929.

During Lippold’s tenure of ownership, he entered into deed/mortgage agreements with Mr. Walker O. Lewis on August 17, 1929 (Lot 7) and with Mr. E. Harrison Powell on February 11, 1930 (Lot 12). The documents stated “for the erection of the proposed dwelling referred to herein”. Although the Sears, Roebuck & Company name was not mentioned in these deeds the address for both gentlemen was listed as 925 Homan Avenue, Chicago, which was the Sears headquarters in the early 1900’s. Sears offered home mortgages and company officials were typically named on the mortgage or deed associated with the property. Walker O. Lewis and E. Harrison Powell were two of several Sears company officials often listed on mortgages and deeds. Therefore, evidence points to these homes as being Sears kit homes. Both houses were built in the Claremont style.

The 1928 Modern Homes Catalog distributed by Sears, Roebuck & Company describes the Claremont as “Americanized English” style architecture. The exterior exhibits characteristics of a Tudor Revival with a steeply pitched roof and cross gables (front and side). The house entrance breaks up the otherwise flat facade and features a vestibule complete with a coat closet. The Claremont’s front door was designed with a circle head (known as a curved top), batten material (known as vertical seamed wood) and ornamental strap hinges (known as long legged iron hinges). A pair of front shutters was also constructed of this batten material. The advertised exterior was a stained shingle finish, but clear cypress bevel siding was offered as an upgrade because it was a more aesthetically pleasing and had a very durable finish.

The floor plan of the home follows a bungalow style. It has an open flow with compact, stacked rooms and no or minimal hallways. The Claremont model boasts six rooms including a living room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, and one bath. Homes of this time period did not have the standard centralized heating and cooling systems to which we are accustomed, and house designs utilized built-in elements to help control heat loss and ventilation. The front vestibule kept the cold winter air from entering the house. The windows were typically laid out to maximize cross breezes during the hot months. Sears, Roebuck & Company operated the catalog mail order Modern Homes program from 1908 to 1940. The catalog offered home kits that allowed the purchaser to buy the materials needed for a complete house including all necessary cut lumber, trim boards, nails, finish materials and plumbing/electric fixtures. Most catalogs noted that concrete, masonry, and plaster were not included. House kits typically arrived by rail car and were trucked to the home site. Sears had the ability to mass-produce these materials which kept manufacturing costs low[i]. New products offered in these kits included sheet plaster (now known as drywall) in lieu of wood lath and plaster and asphalt shingles where tin or wood roofing was typically used. These new products were fireproof. Typically these were offered as upgrades to the base kit.

The houses included in the Sears catalogs were not unique and were based on popular period home designs. There were multiple mail order catalogs available at this time including Montgomery Ward and Aladdin.

A few years after the Sears mail order home program ended in 1940, all sales records were destroyed during a corporate house cleaning [ii]. With minimal documentation available, identifying a Sears house can be difficult.

To help identify a Sears house many sources recommend the following:
1. Verify dates: Sears homes were only built between 1908 and 1940.
2. Stamped framing members. Mail order kits numbered the ceiling joists, wall studs, roof rafters, stair risers and treads (trimboards were not stamped as they came in lengths that were cut to size as needed). Sears typically used a capital letter followed by a series of numbers.
3. Original paperwork: Blueprints and correspondence letters from Sears listing addresses or names.
Oswego obtains its water from a deep underground pool of water called an aquifer. As this source of water is limited, Oswego is one of many communities that have enacted conservation regulations to help ensure water is available for everyone. We ask your cooperation in complying with the following regulations:

Watering from the Village of Oswego water distribution system may only be used as follows:

All properties with even-numbered street numbers (i.e., numbers ending in 0, 2, 4, 6, or 8) may use village distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for plant or yard watering on even-numbered calendar dates between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

All properties with odd-numbered street numbers (i.e., numbers ending in 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9) may use Village-distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for plant or yard watering on odd-numbered calendar dates between the hours of 4:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

All non-addressed properties including, but not limited to, subdivision entrances, roadway islands, and parkways may use village distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for plant or yard watering on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and also between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the paragraphs above, the following special regulations shall apply:

There shall be no restrictions as to hours or days when water from the Village water distribution system may be used for watering or sprinkling gardens, trees, shrubs, or other outdoor plants where such watering or sprinkling is done by a person using a hand-held watering device.

The automatic watering of trees and shrubs by means of root feeders within the drip line of the tree or shrub will follow the even/odd restrictions stated above.

The planting of sod or grass seed is prohibited during the months of June, July and August.

Property owners or residents who want to continuously water a newly seeded, slit-seeded, or sodded area more than ten (10) square yards will need to obtain a permit at the Public Works Department, at Village Hall located at 100 Parkers Mill. (There is no fee for this permit; however, violators will be fined.) (Village Code 8-7-14)

Filling swimming pools: Persons wishing to fill their pool may have the water brought in by tank by a private contractor or use their private garden hose to do so. The filling of swimming pools with hydrant water is prohibited. If using a private hose, the homeowner will follow the water conservation rules. If, in the case of a new pool, and filling will take longer than the conservation limitations, a FREE permit will be issued to allow the hose to run for 48 hours. Keep in mind that the permit is free and violators will be fined.

4. Public records: Sears company officials were often listed on mortgages and deeds. (444 Douglas Street records list Walker O. Lewis on the trustee deed/mortgage who was a Sears trustee until early 1930; 441 Douglas Street record lists E. Harrison Powell)

Please let us know if you live in, or think you might possibly live in a Sears or other “kit” home!

Notable former owner/resident of 441 Douglas Street:
Norval M. Tripp (former Village Clerk, Park District Board, School Trustee, and instrumental in establishment of Oswego Community Library Association)

Quote from Kendall County Record, June 1937:
“Miss Mildred Grosslag, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. August Grosslag of Aurora, became the bride of Norval Tripp, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Tripp of Oswego on Friday, May 7. Upon their return from a wedding trip they will reside in one of the new Lippold houses in the south end of Oswego. Mr. Tripp conducts the Herren real estate and insurance office on Main street.”

The Property of the Season Program was created by the Oswego Historic Preservation Commission to honor properties, and their owners, that are deemed contributing to the historical and cultural character on the Village of Oswego. For the purposes of this program, a property can be identified as a structure, site, or permanent object such as a sign, clock or other community icon. More details about the program are available on the Village’s website.
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Reuse & Recycle Extravaganza – Saturday, April 23, 2016.

Recycle what you don’t need at the ECO Commission Reuse & Recycle Extravaganza. The event will be on Saturday, April 23rd, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Oswego Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Dr.

We will accept bicycles, books, clothing, electronics, eyeglasses, keys, lawn mowers, LCD/LED/Plasma televisions, packing materials, scrap metal, school supplies, suitcases, toys and more! You can also exchange used books, videotapes, CDs and DVDs. Please note that tube televisions and latex paints will not be accepted this year.

This event is made possible with the help of wonderful volunteers. To volunteer, please call 630.551.2343 or email at eco@oswegoill.org. Volunteering at the Extravaganza is a great way to help your community! Volunteers should be middle school age and older.

Order Your Rain Barrels

The Village of Oswego, in partnership with the Conservation Foundation, is selling rain barrels!

Rain barrels are large containers that capture stormwater from your roof that would otherwise be lost as runoff. Modern barrels are sealed, safe around children, and insect resistant. Users divert water from your downspout to fill the rain barrel. A hose spigot on the front makes the water easy to access and use. Per the Conservation Foundation, approximately 40 percent of total household water use during the summer months is for watering lawns and gardens. Rainwater is a sustainable solution for watering flowers and gardens, or washing cars and windows.

Please place your order before April 18. Rain barrels will cost $60 and can be ordered through the Conservation Foundation’s website at http://www.upcycle-products.com/static.asp?path=4387.

When ordering, select the Village of Oswego order form on the right sidebar and choose to deliver the barrel to your home for an additional $5, or choose municipal pick up for no additional charge.

Orders placed prior to April 18 for municipal pick up are to be collected at the Environmentally Conscious Oswego (ECO) commission’s Reuse and Recycle Extravaganza on Saturday, April 23rd from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Village of Oswego Public Works Facility, located at 100 Theodore Dr. Please collect rain barrels from this facility prior to 2:00 pm on April 23.

Rain barrels may be ordered for home delivery from now until Christmas.

Please call Aaron Howe at 630.551.2343 or email ahowe@oswegoill.org for assistance.
Recently, the Oswego Chamber of Commerce hosted the State of the Village Address at the Oswego Village Hall. The event included a reflection on the past year and cast the vision for the future of our community. The full presentation can be viewed at http://www.oswegoil.org/government/village-board/agendas.aspx. Highlights from the presentation are listed below.

A Look Back to 2015

Public Safety

- Oswego Police increased levels of service with our senior population by a greater presence at the Oswego Senior Center and our senior living facilities.
- Better collaboration with the Kendall County Sheriff’s office, Yorkville Police and the IL State Police to develop the Kendall County Criminal Intelligence Team.
- Building and Zoning Department took a proactive approach by implementing an information campaign to help residents mitigate code violations.
- Traffic Calming Policy was adopted to identify means of slowing down traffic.
- Launched a sub-regional water supply and treatment analysis with our neighboring communities of Montgomery and Yorkville to determine the feasibility, costs, and location of a shared water treatment plant along the Fox River.

Business Attraction and Retention

- In 2015, 49 new businesses opened in Oswego.
- Successful attempt to bring independent and regional chain restaurants to Oswego including Lou Malnati’s, Salsa Verde, and Tuscan Tavern.
- Economic Development Commission was created to assist the Village staff with business attraction and retention.
- Revolving loan fund was approved for the Oswego Cyclery expansion and Country Financial received a façade improvement grant.
- A TIF study was initiated as a new economic development tool.

Community Enhancement

- A bold Comprehensive Plan was adopted that lays out land used for the future while preserving the character of the Village of Oswego.
- With the collaboration and agreement of all other taxing bodies in the area, a new reduced fee structure was created to encourage balanced residential growth and streamlined the payment process for those fees to make it easier to do business in Oswego.
- With the help of Groot Industries, the Village’s waste hauler, new trash and recycling receptacles have been placed throughout Downtown Oswego.
- Secured $2.5 million in federal funds towards construction of Wolf Road widening from Harvey to Eola, which is scheduled to be completed in 2020.
- Sales Taxes are up more than 5% over last year; Village Board recently voted to reduce the property tax rate by 5% for next year; Village Board is poised to adopt our first 20-Year Capital Improvement Plan, which is a long term plan for proactively addressing the Village’s building and infrastructure needs; and Property values continue to rise since the recession as seen in a 6% rise in the Village’s total Equalized Assessed Valuation in 2015.
- Worked diligently to improve our relationships with our fellow taxing bodies.

Looking Ahead – 2016 Goals through Connections (#OswegoConnects)

Connecting with Our Residents

- Engage with the community regularly through activities by working to improve opportunities for the community to interact with the village through volunteer opportunities, learning opportunities and more.
- Community Conversations – The Board and Staff will come into the community several times a year to discuss topic important to you.
- Examine special events for relevancy and look at ways to improve them.
- Expand and promote our communication platforms including social media, Village website, Everbridge Emergency Notification System and SeeClickFix.
- OpenGov will be implemented in 2016. OpenGov is a software program that takes all of the Village’s financial information and puts it into formats that are easy to understand and navigate.
- A Special Census will take place this year.

Connecting with the Business Community

- Analysis of the TIF District which is a tool that will create funds to reinvest in our downtown.
- Promote riverfront development on appropriate sites.
- Continue to market high-priority sites including the former lumber yard and the old Village Hall block.
- Enhance development along Washington Street from Madison to Route 31.
- Support businesses that want to expand.
- Continue to seek out targeted businesses: specialty grocers, fine dining, banquet facilities, furniture stores and more.

Connecting with Nature

- Partnership with the Conservation Foundation.
- Change our policies so that we honor the spirit of the new Comprehensive Plan and work to keep the southern planning area free of development for as long as possible.
- Continue to make the ECO Commission a vital part of our mission by looking at ways to expand our reuse and recycling efforts and encouraging rain barrel installations.

Connecting for Future

- Transportation plan including – Metra, roadway improvements and pedway connections for walking and biking.
- Planning for the Village’s future water needs.
- Comprehensive plan implementation.

This is a bold and balanced approach that we believe will make Oswego bountiful. The Village Board and Staff hope that you will find new and improved ways to connect with us in 2016. #OswegoConnect

Wine on the Fox
at Hudson Crossing Park
Saturday, May 7th 11am-8pm
Sunday, May 8th 12pm-6pm

Oswego’s Premier Wine Event!
Wine tasting is $15 per day for a souvenir wine glass, wristband, and 20 tasting tickets (10 per day).
Advanced two-day passes are non-refundable.
Additional Tasting Tickets are $1 each.
Must be 21 with proper ID to taste wines!

*Advanced two-day passes may be purchased for $25 and includes 1 souvenir wine glass, wristband, and 20 tasting tickets (10 per day).
Advanced two-day passes are non-refundable.
Additional Tasting Tickets are $1 each.
Must be 21 with proper ID to taste wines!
**SPRING CLEANUP**  
**WEEK OF APRIL 11 - 15**

Groot Industries provides a clean-up day in the spring and fall. They will collect additional household waste, yard waste, and bulk items for all Village residents the week of April 11th – April 15th, on your normally scheduled garbage day. Residents must place yard waste in the 30 gallon kraft yard waste bags. PLEASE – NO PLASTIC BAGS! NO stickers will be required (this week only). NOTE – you cannot put out appliances or electronics. Please place all items, along with your regular garbage and recycling, at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your normally scheduled garbage day. If you have any questions regarding this pick up, please contact the Public Works Department @ 630-554-3242.

**BRUSH PICK UP**

The Village has implemented brush collection by zones. There are two zones. Zone A includes all properties east of the Fox River and north of US 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and north of Mill Road. Zone B includes all properties east of the Fox River and south of US 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and south of Mill Road. We will collect brush from each zone once each month beginning in April. The last pickup will be in October just prior to the start of the leaf collection program. Collection weeks are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone A</th>
<th>Zone B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 4</td>
<td>April 11</td>
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<td>May 2</td>
<td>May 9</td>
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<td>September 5</td>
<td>September 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>October 10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Place all brush at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on Monday morning of the designated week, but no earlier than noon the Friday before.

The Public Works trucks will pass through an area once and will not return for brush placed after the deadline.

Brush is defined as tree and bush branches that are less than 5” in diameter. Place unbundled brush parallel or perpendicular to the street in neat bundles with all cut ends facing the same direction. Do not put brush in a container or in the street. We will not pick up logs, wood, root balls, cuttings, or grass clippings.

Crews will place an orange tag on your door indicating the reason they did not pick up the brush if it is the wrong material or placed at the curb prior to the deadline.

The Village provides this service for residents. Village does not accept landscaping generated by contractors.

**FREE WOOD CHIPS**

The Public Works Department has wood chips available for residents free of charge. These wood chips are the product of our brush pick up program as well as other tree removal efforts. Some chips may be from Ash tree removals. Please be advised that due to the Emerald Ash borer quarantine, these chips need to remain local. Please note that this is not fine mulch as you would purchase. Homeowners may pick up the wood chips at the Public Works Facility located at 100 Theodore Drive any time or day out in the back by the salt dome.

**OSWEGO MAKES REPORTING AN ISSUE EASY ON YOUR SMARTPHONE**

Since July 1, 2014, residents and Village personnel have generated more than 1,500 work requests to fill potholes, repair streetlights, and replace dead trees, among many other types of requests. You, too, can easily report issues – simply visit the Village of Oswego website at www.oswegoil.org or download the mobile app. It makes reporting a problem to the Village easier than ever. We encourage you to attach a photo or video, as a visual reference will help the Village quickly identify the problem. Residents can track the status of reports and follow your issue from the time it is reported until it is resolved. Village staff responds to requests Monday through Friday between 8 am and 3 pm. If this report comes in on a holiday, weekend or after-hours, Village staff will read it on the next business day. If you would like to report an issue with your smartphone, please download our Oswego Click ‘n Fix mobile app. NOTE: for emergencies or other urgent matters that require immediate attention or a police response, dial 9-1-1.

If you have a smartphone, and would like to report an issue, please download our app. Oswego Click ‘n Fix is available for download as an app on the following platforms:

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**Jim Cargo**  
Financial Advisor  
Edward Jones  
**MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING**

25 W. Merchants Drive  
Oswego, IL 60543-9456  
Ofc: 630-896-1701  
Fax: 888-759-8108  
www.edwardjones.com

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**Ken Boncela**  
Agent  
**FARMER’S INSURANCE**  
21 West Merchants Drive  
Oswego, IL 60543  
Bus: 630-801-8942  
Fax: 630-801-8944  
kboncela@farmersagent.com  
www.farmersagent.com/kboncela
**WATER MAIN FLUSHING: APRIL 18 - 29**

The Public Works Department will be flushing water mains during the two week period of April 18th – April 29th (weather permitting). Crews will begin flushing at 7:00 a.m. Please do your laundry before that time or after 6:00 p.m. on these days to avoid rust discoloration of clothes. If your clothes become discolored, please notify the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242.

The Public Works Department flushes all fire hydrants in March and September under the recommendation of the Illinois EPA. Flushing does a number of things including cleaning of water mains and producing fresh water to areas of the system that have low or very little usage. Flushing cleans the water mains by running high flows of water through fire hydrants to get rid of iron deposits that could produce colored water and, in some instances, plugged water meters. Flushing also helps produce fresh water by opening hydrants at the end of water mains and pulling fresh water all the way to the end of the line. This helps if a resident lives in a new subdivision that has little water usage.

REMEMBER – if the Village crews are in your area, do not do laundry until after 6:00 p.m. on the days of flushing. Also, before running your hot water, run all cold water taps first to make sure the water is running clear. Only when it is running clear is when you want to run your hot water.

The department will be putting up signs to alert residents of the upcoming flushing. These signs will be placed throughout the Village the week before the flushing. Please watch for them.

**WATER SHUTOFF VALVE**

Do you know where your indoor shutoff valve is? There are times when a leak can occur in the water service line inside the home and a public works employee is not immediately available to turn the water off at the street. Most homeowners can turn off their water at their indoor valve by their water meter until help can arrive.

If you do not know where your indoor shutoff valve is please call the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242 to schedule an appointment for someone to come show you where it is and how to turn it off. This service is FREE and can save you from having a water mess in your home.

**WINTER SALT DAMAGE**

Spring is the time to take care of some of the problems winter leaves behind. Turf salt damage can be one of the first problems addressed and at a minimal cost. The most common areas that can be damaged are along driveways, roadways, and sidewalks.

The damaged area should be lightly raked to remove any dead grass and to loosen the turf base. Apply a granular gypsum material to help neutralize the salt left behind in the soil. This can be applied at the rate of ten pounds per one hundred square feet. Top-dress the area with a light layer of topsoil. Incorporate a general blend of grass seed to the area at the rate of one half pound per one hundred square feet. Lightly rake the area and dampen with water. Dampen the area daily until the seed germinates. Maintain weekly, depending on weather conditions.

Materials needed to repair damaged areas can be purchased at your local garden center.

**YARD WASTE PICK UP**

Yard waste pick up began the week of April 4th and will continue weekly until Friday, December 2nd. The State of Illinois defines yard waste as grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, small tree limbs, and other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines, and trees. Examples of yard waste include grass clippings, leaves, branches, limbs, weeds, logs, and garden plants. Your waste material will be collected only if it is placed in a 30 gallon Kraft paper bag with 1 Groot Industries yard waste sticker affixed to the front of the bag. The bags and stickers are available at local retail grocery and hardware stores. Yard waste will be collected on the same day that your regular trash is collected. Please have your yard waste, trash, and recycling at your curb by 6:00 a.m. on your collection day.
The Village is conducting a Special Census!

**What does this mean for Village residents?**

- If you are a resident of one of the selected areas within the Village you will be asked to participate in the 2016 partial Special Census.
- A Census employee will take door-to-door census counts in your neighborhood this spring.
- Identifying information collected for the Special Census is confidential and is not used in any other formats or shared with other organizations outside of the Census Bureau.
- The Special Census will allow residents who were not included in the 2010 census a chance to be included in the overall population of the Village.
- A detailed map of the selected locations is available on the Village website (www.oswegoil.org).

**What does this mean for the Village?**

- The Village has funded a partial Special Census through the United States Census Bureau to make sure residents in areas of growth have been counted towards the Village population.
- The Village receives certain revenues allocated by the state on a per capita basis, a total of $145 per person. An accurate population count will ensure the Village is receiving its share of these revenues.

*For more information, please call 630-551-2343 or email ahowe@oswegoil.org*