

# The Oak Leaf

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2014

VILLAGE OF  
GREEN OAKS

*Community of Country Living*



## Trick or Treat?

### Halloween Trick or Treat Hours

Friday, October 31st  
from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

These hours coincide with  
those of Libertyville and  
other surrounding communities.



## REMEMBER

Sunday Night  
November 2<sup>nd</sup>

Set  
your  
clocks  
back -  
Daylight  
Saving Time Ends



## Fall Leaf Pick-Up

### AUTUMN HAS ARRIVED.

A time to enjoy raking leaves!! The village is again offering its annual fall leaf pick-up. The service is provided to residents free of charge. The dates for the collections have been increased to encourage residents to use these services as a substitute for burning leaves. This years dates will be:

### Saturdays Only ~ October 25 through November 29

On the night before, or by 6:00 a.m. on the day of the pick-up, rake your leaves to the edge of the roadway where disposal trucks will vacuum them away. **DO NOT BAG THE LEAVES.** To insure maximum drainage during the winter and spring, clear the leaves and debris from all culverts and roadside ditches on your property.

If you prefer to bag your leaves, Groot Disposal, the waste hauler franchised to serve our Village, offers various yard waste disposal options. Customers not already enrolled in the yard waste subscription service can call Groot Disposal at 847-566-5159 to inquire about the programs and options.



# Streets & Roads

## COMMITTEE REPORT

### MAINTENANCE

Normally, every year in Green Oaks, we take our portion of the motor fuel tax that we receive from the State of Illinois, pick a couple of roads that are in dire need of repair, and pulverize and overlay those roads. This year however, due to the particularly harsh winter that we had earlier this year, and the numerous potholes produced by it, we decided to take those funds and patch as many roads as we can throughout the village. In this way, we hope that we can stretch our resources to make our roads a little less bumpy for as many residents of the Village as we can. In addition to the Motor Fuel Tax money we receive from the state, we also rely upon the funds collected through our village stickers, to help repair our roads. Patching of our roads should be completed by the end of the month. If the Rondout TIF district goes through, then in the future, we'll be able to focus the money budgeted for our roads solely on the residential areas of Green Oaks.

### SNOW PLOWING

Our contract with our current snow plow contractor expired this year, so in August, we advertised for bids for a new snow plow contract. Out of the bids that we received, Midwest Snow Solutions, our previous contractor, came in with the lowest bid by far. They also were the company with the equipment and personnel located closest to the Village, which means that their response time is much shorter than that of competing companies. Once again, we'll plow only the main streets if there's just an inch of accumulated snow on the ground, and all the streets if there are two or more inches.

If you feel that your property has difficult or blind areas that a snow plow driver may not be aware of, please consider placing temporary stakes in the areas of concern to help alleviate any possible damage that may occur. The best time to do this is in early December. In the meantime, enjoy the warm weather while we still have it!

**Trustee Dan Sugrue  
Chairman - Streets  
and Roads Committee**



## *Singers Wanted* Green Oaks Holiday Chorus

invites all voices to join our seasonal holiday chorus for our 25th year.

Concert benefits PADS (homeless shelter system) of Lake County.

Variety of music performed for the holidays: choral, carols and popular Christmas songs.

Some choral background, (no matter how long ago), is desired.

Rehearsals Mondays 7-9pm starting October 6th.

Interested? Call Nancy at (847) 362-3809.

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## VILLAGE OF GREEN OAKS

2020 O'Plaine Road • Green Oaks, Illinois 60048  
**847-362-5363**

Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees will be the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall. Committees meet regularly on the first and third Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall.

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

Bernard Wysocki ~ 362-2940

**PRESIDENT**

Elaine Palmer ~ 362-5363

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR**

Clare Michelotti

**VILLAGE CLERK**

### TRUSTEES

Dennis Dorsey ~ 816-4881

Pamela Milroy ~ 362-5805

John Wagener ~ 549-0903

Dan Sugrue ~ 769-2844

Virginia Wood ~ 224-392-1056

Richard Glogovsky ~ 816-1842

# Rondout Route 176 Corridor TIF District Project

Since March of this year, the Village of Green Oaks has been undertaking a study and review process to determine the potential benefits of establishing a Rondout Route 176 Corridor Tax Increment Allocation Financing District (TIF). The boundaries of the proposed district extend from the eastern border of the Village along the Route 176 corridor to just west of the Illinois I-94 Tollway (See Map).

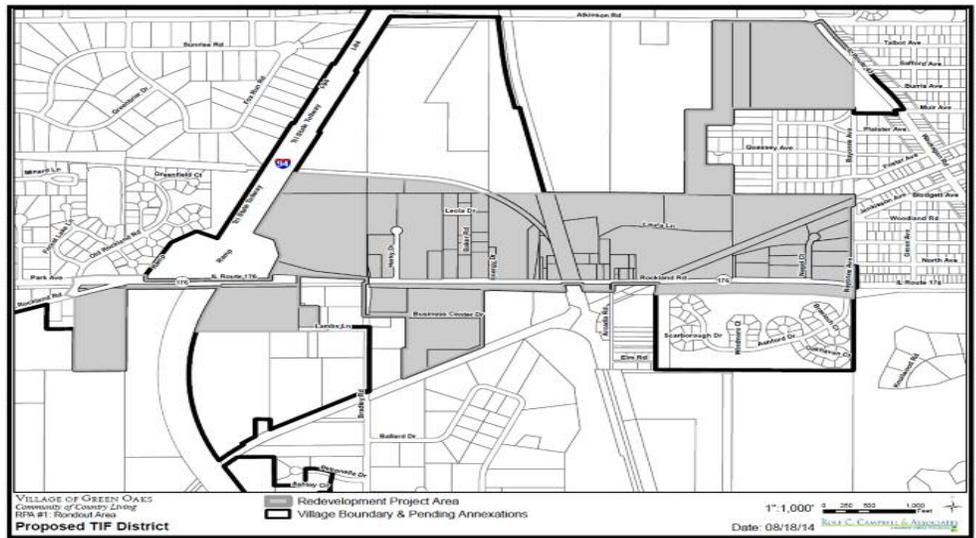
The Village annexed the Rondout area in the early 1990s in order to address the deteriorating conditions of the area and to provide planning and development guidance to enhance the area for the surrounding communities. Towards this objective, the Village has invested in projects to restore the North Branch of the Chicago River, developed a Comprehensive Plan to provide for an organized redevelopment approach for the area, developed a Watershed Development plan to address mitigation of flooding issues, and developed Zoning Ordinance regulations supporting business owners' redevelopment land uses. Despite these successful projects and changes, the Village has been financially limited in its ability to engage in much needed infrastructure improvements due to the area's minimal retail sales tax base and no municipal property tax levy. For these reasons along with the current deteriorating infrastructure and size of the Rondout area at approximately 340 acres, the Village must pursue all possible financing efforts to make needed improvements.

How does a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) district help a Village and the business community?

1. Tax Incremental Financing is a statutory economic development program that municipalities can enact to facilitate continued development or redevelopment of a specific geographic area.
2. The program works by capturing increases in property tax revenues caused by new development (called the increment) over existing levels .

3. TIF revenues can be spent only on certain public realm investments within the district.
4. The TIF does NOT add any new taxes, rates, or levies. Existing baseline tax revenues continue to go to the taxing districts.
5. TIF Districts can have a lifetime of up to 23 years.

The Village has solicited participation from all appropriate Taxing Districts to work with the Village and become members of the Rondout Route 176 Corridor TIF District Joint Review Board. Recent meetings with the Taxing Districts have provided needed insight and confirmation that a project of this type is necessary and



warranted. At the last meeting of this Joint Review Board the representatives of the Taxing Districts in attendance unanimously approved the Village's plan of commercial redevelopment for the Rondout Area. This plan of redevelopment is available for viewing on the Village's website.

The results of the study and review process should be concluded by the end of year. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact Dennis Dorsey, Trustee, Annexation, Planning and Zoning at [dennis.dorsey@greenoaks.org](mailto:dennis.dorsey@greenoaks.org) or at 847-848-6047.





## PUBLIC WORKS Underground

**Trustee**  
**John Wagener**  
**Chairman**

**Recycle-O-Rama Comes to Town:** Well, almost... The Solid waste Agency of Lake County (“SWALCO”) is hosting its annual Recycle-O-Rama event on Saturday, October 11 at the Lake County DOT facility just off Winchester Road in Libertyville. It will run from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and a variety of non-traditional items will be accepted for recycling, including household and automotive batteries, CDs, electronics, clothing and smoke detectors. On-site paper shredding will also be provided. More information is available on the Village web site or at [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org) under the “events” listing.

**Proposed Special Service Area No. 12:** The Public Works Committee received a petition from residents in the Saddle Hill II subdivision requesting that the Village consider establishing a Special Service Area (“SSA”) for the purpose of extending the municipal water system into their neighborhood. In response, the Village Board passed an ordinance proposing the establishment of the SSA. In compliance with the requirements of the applicable Illinois Statute, Special Service Area Tax Law, 35 ILCS 200/27-5, impacted residents were notified and a public hearing was held on September 23, 2014. The proposed project was discussed at that hearing. Information relating to this proposal is available on the Village website [www.greenoaks.org](http://www.greenoaks.org) under the “projects” tab. Residents within the proposed SSA have 60 days from the close of the hearing to file written, signed objections to the proposed SSA with the Village Clerk.

**Fall Leaf Pick-up Funding:** As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, the Fall leaf pick-up service is starting up. Keep in mind that the Village is able to offer this free service to residents because of sustainability efforts in our community. The Public Works Committee uses the dollars generated through our recycling efforts to offset the cost of providing this service. Through the first half

of 2014, we have recycled 286 tons, which is down only slightly from 2013’s figure of 293 tons. Although per-ton payments for recyclables are down due to market conditions, the Village still received over \$2,300 for this material. This half-year payment covers roughly 50% of the leaf pick-up cost. So, it does pay to recycle.

**Trails & Open Space:** Be sure to take advantage of our open spaces and trails as the Fall colors come out. See the accompanying article from guest columnist Louise Wood discussing the Village’s Emerald Ash Borer program and the new trees that have been planted.

If you have any questions concerning public sewer, municipal water, the trail system, storm water management or solid waste and recycling, please feel free to contact your Public Works Committee chair at [john.wagener@greenoaks.org](mailto:john.wagener@greenoaks.org).



## Tire Recycling Event

**Friday, October 31, 2014; 8:00 to 1:00 pm**

Lake County Division of Transportation, 600 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville

**For Lake County, IL Residents Only (No Businesses)**

**Passenger Car, Truck and Tractor Tires Accepted—NO RIMS ALLOWED**



A rare opportunity to...

- Help the environment.
- Decrease the spread of West Nile and other mosquito-borne illnesses.
- Manage unwanted tires safely and conveniently.

*The event is in conjunction with the Illinois EPA. There is a \$1.00 per tire charge (cash only) to residents, to help offset costs of transportation and recycling of tires.*

The event is sponsored by SWALCO, Lake County Farm Bureau, Lake County Health Department and Clarke Mosquito. Please visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) for information or to view/print this flyer, or call SWALCO at 847-336-9340 with questions. **NO tire dealers, commercial trucking or businesses.**



# Trees for the Future

– Louise Wood

As a result of Village efforts, a beautiful assortment of native oaks, hickories and blue beech now stand in this field where over 30 ash trees infected with emerald ash borer were recently removed.

The Village of Green Oaks has been actively addressing the loss of the ash trees on Village property since 2012. First, they applied for and received a grant from the Metropolitan Mayor’s Caucus which provided funds for an inventory of ash trees and the development of a management plan to

address the dying ash. During the winter of 2012, each ash on Village property was tagged with a numbered small metal disc and assessed for the degree of affliction and hazard.

With a management plan in hand, the Village then applied for a grant for reforestation through the Delta Institute in 2013. For each infected ash tree that the Village removed, matching funds were provided for the planting of a new tree. It has been sad to see the ash trees die. The oak tree in the picture is small, but there are already small acorns on its branches. Next year migrating birds will find rest and robins will build their nests. It is heartening to see trees planted for the future.



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## Nonprofit program provides advice, resources for healthy landscaping

Home and business owners looking for objective, eco-friendly landscaping advice can benefit from a property consultation with Conserve Lake County, a non-profit organization working to improve land and water health since 1985. To make better use of time and landscaping budgets while contributing to protection of Lake County's exceptional natural resources, property owners can walk and assess their properties with one of Conserve's professional biologists and receive recommendations tailored to their needs.

Learn how to retain aesthetics and improve property values while making your property healthy for pets, people, songbirds and butterflies. Learn about ecological treasures or invasive species that might exist on your property, and aesthetic ways to approach water issues, healthy lawn care and landscaping with native trees, shrubs or other plants. This service is offered through the region's popular Conservation At Home program, administered locally by Conserve Lake County. Visit [www.ConserveLakeCounty.org](http://www.ConserveLakeCounty.org) or call 847.548.5989.



## Guidelines for Draining Swimming Pools

Chlorinated water discharged to surface water (wetlands, lakes, streams, rivers, etc.), roadways or storm sewers has an adverse impact on local water quality. High concentrations of chlorine, which are present in swimming pools, are toxic to wildlife and fish. When draining your pool for the late fall/early winter, please follow one of the following measures:

- De-chlorinate the water in the pool prior to draining. This can be done through mechanical or chemical means. These types of products are readily available at local stores. Or,
- Drain the pool over a period of several days across your lawn following the additional guidelines below:
  1. Allow pool water to sit for at least 2 days while receiving a reasonable amount of sunlight, and without further addition of chlorine or bromine. Test the chlorine level after 2 days to ensure that safe levels are met (below 0.1 mg/l).
  2. Direct discharges from the pool across your lawn, not down your driveway or into nearby storm sewer inlets. Our storm sewer system leads directly to wetlands, streams, lakes or rivers.

These recommendations are based on guidance from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. Visit [www.epa.state.il.us/water](http://www.epa.state.il.us/water) for additional information. Thank you for doing your part to help promote cleaner wetlands, streams, lakes and rivers.



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## President's Corner

– Bernard Wysocki  
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Recently the Village Board attended the Illinois Municipal League Conference in Chicago. At the conference, I was discussing various topics with a few mayors from the northern suburbs. The subjects ran the gamut from Lake Michigan water to road repairs.

During the discussions, I shared the fact that what made me the proudest about our community were the people. Having lived in the village for over 30 years, I have seen how people in the village care for their families, neighbors, and their community.

We are volunteers. There is a certain satisfaction incorporating services into your life and making a difference in our families, churches, schools, and community.

Last year, I requested help from our citizens to fill vacancies in our plan commission and zoning appeals boards. Thank you for your response. We have filled all our boards, and I would like to take this opportunity to share information about our new appointees.

First, the Village Board had a member switch with another one from the Plan Commission. Two years ago Richard Glogovsky and Patricia Thomas ran as incumbents for the board. After the votes were counted, they each received the same number of votes. In order to break the tie, the Lake County Clerk flipped a coin. In this case, Pat Thomas chose correctly and was declared the winner.

Mr Glogovsky was then appointed to the Plan Commission. Unfortunately for our board, Pat's job had her traveling all over the world, and she requested to be replaced. I asked her to think about returning to the Plan Commission which requires less time and switching places with Richard. Rich was sworn in as a trustee and Pat became a member of the Plan Commission.

Second, in addition to Pat returning to the Plan Commission, we added Peter McKernan and Nick Gallopoulos. Peter had previously served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and "volunteered" for the Plan Commission. Nick was a real find. He had previously served in the same position in Michigan. Both men hit the ground running with all the projects before the commission.

Next, our Zoning Board of Appeals has a large turnover. We added Deb Galvin, from Greenbriar subdivision, to be the Chairperson. Additional members are Tim Mahoney, Gary Bennett, James Teeters, and John Goodman who was previously on the Plan Commission. They meet whenever there is an appeal of a zoning matter in the village.

Thank you for volunteering for these boards.

Finally, I want to thank our treasurer, Jean Schreck. She has served for more than twenty years and has invested our monies wisely.

This summer, the U.S. Bond Market was declining and we decided to refinance our bonds from the Atkinson Road Project. By being fiscally conservative, our little village is one of the only towns in Illinois that has a AAA Bond rating. With the swift action of Jean and the Board, we were able to save \$200,000 by refinancing our debt and receive a AAA rating.

Have a wonderful and safe fall.

