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OSWEGO NEWS

Oswego News is the official newsletter of the Village of Oswego, published quarterly and mailed to more than 14,000 Oswego postal customers. Comments, suggestions and questions, including advertising, should be directed to:

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BUILDING & ZONING 630-554-2310
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 630-551-2335
FINANCE 630-554-0864
POLICE (NON-EMERGENCY) 630-551-7000
PUBLIC WORKS 630-554-3242
VILLAGE CLERK 630-554-3259
UTILITY/WATER BILLING 630-554-2282

This fall, it's safety first.



AS SUMMER WINDS DOWN and many of us head back to the school year routine, it's the time of year we're all reminded to slow down on the roads and make safety a priority.

In the Village of Oswego, safety is a part of everything we do, from our building inspectors ensuring the safety of new construction to our police officers patrolling the streets to our public works teams keeping those streets clear.

Keeping Oswego safe also means building streets and intersections capable of moving our growing population through town. Turn to page 6 to learn about how our Village Board and staff are making progress on major infrastructure improvements that will have a real effect in the daily lives of residents as they walk and drive everyday in Oswego.

The safety of our residents is our top priority, and we believe our residents have an important role to play in keeping our community safe. If you see a situation in need of attention, from a pothole to a police matter, please contact us. You can report needed repairs like potholes and burned-out streetlights by calling our Public Works Department at 630-554-3242 or report them in using the Oswego Click N Fix app, available for iPhone and Android. For non-urgent police matters, call our non-emergency line at 630-551-7100, and as always, call 911 in an emergency.

Speaking of emergencies, you'll find one more bit of potentially life-saving safety information lower down on this page: how to sign up for emergency notifications from the Village. Registering your phone number will allow our staff to send you important information by phone, text, or email in emergency situations. It's especially important to sign up if you no longer have a landline phone.

Finally, be sure to follow @VillageofOswego and @OswegoPolice on Facebook for even more safety and prepardness tips all season long.

Stay safe this fall,

Troy Parlier Oswego Village President

SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS



WOULD YOU KNOW if an emergency had struck right in your own neighborhood? With Alert Kendall, you can.

With Alert Kendall, powered by the Everbridge Mass Notification System, the Village of Oswego can send a text, email, or voice message straight to your phone with important emergency information, reminders about snow-related parking restrictions and more.

Alert Kendall requires residents to opt in, and this local service is not the same as national or regional alerts, such as National Weather Service or Amber Alerts you may have received in the past. If you have not registered your phone number, you will not receive these notifications.

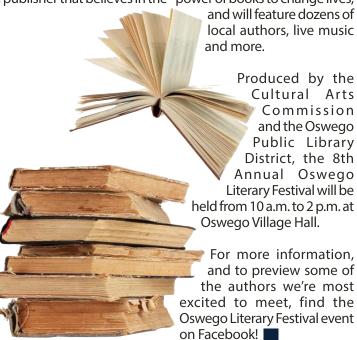
Sign up online by visiting www. co.kendall.il.us/kencom/alert-kendall/

OSWEGO LITERARY FESTIVAL PRESENTED BY Sourcebooks

MEET LOCAL AUTHORS ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 29!

BIBLIOPHILES, GET ready for your opportunity to mingle with dozens of local authors. The Oswego Literary Festival will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29, and includes the opportunity to meet one-on-one with authors, buy books and get them signed, and talk about craft and inspiration in writing. Please note that authors sell books direct, and not all accept electronic forms of payment.

This year's event is presented by Naperville-based Sourcebooks, a publisher that believes in the power of books to change lives,





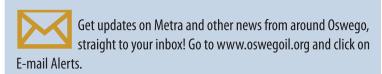
Metra service is a little closer, thanks to a \$100 million appropriation from Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD EARMARKS \$100M FOR KENDALL COUNTY METRA SERVICE

OSWEGO IS JUST A LITTLE CLOSER to getting its Metra station, as well as service to northern Kendall County.

In June, the Illinois General Assembly passed a sweeping capital bill allocating funds to infrastructure projects across the state. That includes a \$100 million allocation for Metra service in Kendally County, or about one-quarter of the project's total estimated cost. Although full funding and construction are still many years away, this allocation of funds brings Oswego one step closer to a project that will transform the Orchard Road corridor and add convenience for the 11 percent of residents who are already commuting to Chicago from Oswego each day. Thank you to our state legislators who made it possible.

Metra has allocated funds to making an Oswego station a reality, too. In May, the Metra board of directors approved a \$4.7 million engineering contract that will study the proposed route and include public meetings about the project. When complete, this initial engineering will provide conceptual designs for the track extension that wil help secure the Federal dollars the project still needs to move forward.



FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

WATCH MEETINGS FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME

Log on to our website at www.oswegoil.org and click on Meeting Agendas & Videos on the homepage. Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., followed by the Regular Village Board meeting at 7 p.m.

NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

We have the solution. Several employees at Village Hall are certified Registrars. Staff is usually available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit www. oswegoil.org and click on 'I Want To.' Information can be found in the 'Apply For' section. More information can also be found on the Kendall County Election & Voter information page at www. co.kendall.il.us.

PUTTING SAFETY FIRST

From how we police to how we design and care for our roads, the Village of Oswego's first priority is the safety and quality of life of our residents. Learn about progress on major infrastructure improvements that will improve safety all over town.

WHEN WINTER WEATHER STRIKES, it's not uncommon for Oswego police officers to respond to vehicles in the ditch along Wolfs Crossing Road.

As Oswego has grown in population, the two-lane road originally designed for a farming community has become a major east-west thoroughfare, especially for the student drivers and buses entering and exiting six different schools along the route.

"Wolfs Crossing was simply not designed for the volume of traffic that we see on it today," said Public Works Director Jenn Hughes. "It's going to take some time, but widening and modernizing Wolfs Crossing is absolutely a priority."

Planning for Wolf's Crossing

The full project, which includes widening 4.5 miles of Wolfs Crossing to five lanes from Route 34 to Eola Road and adding signals and roundabouts

at major intersections, is expected to cost about \$60 million. Because of the immense scope of the project, completing Wolfs Crossing could take ten years or more, depending upon when funding becomes available from the state, Village, and adjacent developers.

To get the project moving for the safety of the thousands of students who travel along the road each school day, the Village has contracted a \$1.4 million engineering study, which is nearly complete, and Village staff have broken the project into ten segments, so that the project can be completed in pieces. The intersection of Wolfs Crossing and Harvey Road, near Oswego East High School, has been prioritized as the first project. Staff have secured \$2.5 million of the \$7 million needed to improve the intersection, and are working to secure additional funding from Springfield in the fall veto session.

Washington Street

Following multiple pedestrian-vehicle crashes on Washington Street over the past year, including one tragic fatality, the Village has been able to bring the Illinois Department of Transportation, which controls Washington Street (U.S. Route 34) back to the table to negotiate improvements.







SEPT. 18 OPEN HOUSE

HELP US MAKE MAIN STREET SAFER

A PUBLIC MEETING on proposed improvements to improve safety and traffic flow in downtown Oswego will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall, 100 Parkers Mill. This meeting is open to the public and will be an open house format. Drop in anytime during the open house to learn more and to offer your input on what can be done to improve the safety and walkability of downtown Oswego.

In June, the Village Board approved a study of Washington Street to determine what improvements are needed, especially as downtown begins to experience rapid development of new restaurants, shopping and housing, bringing more pedestrians to the area. An open house, scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 17, is open to the public and will allow residents and business owners the chance to learn and offer feedback about proposed improvements, including the

five lanes from Route 34 to Eola Road, and will include additional signals town.

Roth
Road

OSSING RD

Fifth
Street

possibility of stoplights on Washington Street at Main Street and at Harrison Street, or other traffic calming strategies. Because U.S. Route 34 is owned by IDOT, any proposed improvements will have to be approved by IDOT before construction could begin.

Meanwhile, pedestrians are encouraged to take extra precautions when crossing Washington Street—only cross at crosswalks, make eye contact with drivers, consider crossing Washington at Madison where there is a signal, and avoid distractions like cell phones. Additionally, police routinely monitor Washington Street to enforce the 20 m.p.h. speed limit.

Quieter railways

The Village also has plans to assess the improvements needed to create railway quiet zones in downtown.

Implementing a train horn quiet zone near downtown Oswego is possible, but will require upgrades, like pedestrian gates, flashing lights and other warning devices. Future studies will determine exactly what upgrades will be needed in downtown Oswego to make our downtown both safer and a little quieter.

For more up-to-date information on improvements happening around Oswego, sign up for e-mail from the Village of Oswego. Visit www.oswegoil. org and click on E-mail Alerts.

FALL-ING FOR LEAF COLLECTION

Crunching fall leaves may be basic, but when early winter weather strikes, Oswego's annual leaf collection program is anything but.

EACH FALL, the curbside leaf vacuum program provides Oswego residents a way to dispose of leaves with no bagging and no stickers needed. This cost-effective collection service is provided free to residents, and costs the Village about \$1.81 per household to tidy up town before winter hits, and last year crews cleared more than 240 truckloads of leaves.

Still, it is impossible for the vacuum to collect 100 percent of the leaves. Once leaf collection is done, a contracted street sweeper comes through town over a period of several days to clear any remaining leaves from the gutters.

What happens when winter comes early? When snow falls in November, wet, frozen leaves become harder to vaccum up, and crews must first brush off or break up any snow or ice on the leaves before they can be vaccumed. This can slow down the collection. So, too, can major early snow storms. That's because the same trucks are used for both leaf collection and snow operations, so crews must convert the trucks for the different tasks.

To guarantee your leaves get picked up,

have them to the curb by 7 a.m. Monday on your scheduled collection weeks.

Rake your leaves into piles placed in the parkway, on the grass between the sidewalk and curb. Don't leave them in the street.

No brush, grass clippings, tree limbs, vines, or trash will be collected. These materials can cause damage to our costly equipment and can put the operator and residents in the area at risk of injury or death.

Please remember

Leaves placed in the parkway after 7 a.m. Monday will be picked up on the following scheduled week for your zone.

Due to the tremendous scope of this work, leaves piled near an obstruction or obstructed by a parked vehicle will be skipped, and will not be picked up until the next collection week.

The bulk of the piles will be vacuumed up as the crews go by your address. However, it is impossible for crews to collect 100 percent of the leaves piled. Keep leaves out of the curb line and street. Leaves in the street can cause

hazardous driving conditions and local flooding.

Leaf burning is prohibited at all times throughout the Village.

There is a very small window of opportunity to collect the leaves from the time the leaves fall to when winter weather begins. Inclement weather or large volume of leaves can alter the leaf pickup schedule. Once the leaves are snow covered, the vacuum cannot collect the leaves and the program may be suspended.

Collection alternatives

Residents are strongly encouraged to use alternative options such as placing leaves in and around plant beds under trees and shrubs as this provide nutrients for the soil and provide insulation for the plants. For details on the benefits of mulching leaves, see page 8.

Residents can also use Groot's curbside yard waste bags and refuse collection program. The final day for yard waste pickup through Groot is Saturday, November 30th. Yard waste bags will be accepted without stickers the week of November 4th.

Safety first!

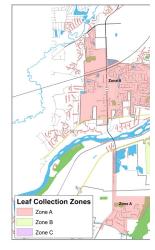
Leaves left in the street can cause flooding and slick, hazardous driving conditions.



Correct: leaf piles, up on the curb.



Incorrect: Leaf piles in the street cause flooding.



LEAF COLLECTION

ZONES

The Village has a zoned collection system to provide residents with a set schedule for leaf collection. Your house is assigned a zone based upon its location in the Village:

Zone A All properties west of the Fox River, Hunt Club subdivision, and all properties east of Fox Bend Golf Course and south of Route 34.

Zone B All properties south of Wolf Road, all properties south of Route 34 east of the Fox River and west of Route 71 (the downtown area), all properties south of Route 71 excluding Hunt Club subdivision.

Zone C All properties east of the Fox River and northwest of Route 34.

For a list of leaf collection zones by subdivision, visit www.oswegoil.org/leaf-collection.aspx

DATES

Village crews will collect leaves three times this season. Leaf collection is scheduled for Monday through Friday as follows:

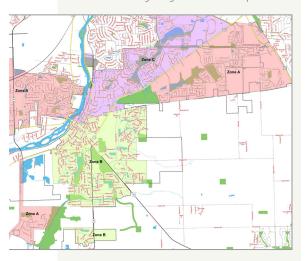
Zone A Weeks of October 14, October 28 & November 18

Zone B Weeks of October 14. November 4 & November 25

Zone C Weeks of October 21, November 11 & December 2

Dates may be subject to change due to Inclement weather, staffing, potential equipment issues, and the volume of leaves.

View a larger map of leaf collection zones at www.osweaoil.ora/leaf-collection.aspx



SHARED SERVICES

Thank you, Aurora and Hanover Park!



WHEN WINDS AND HAIL brought down trees across the Village, Oswego called out to our neighboring communities in the Illinois Public Works Association Mutual Aid Network for cleanup help. Oswego offers aid to other towns whenenever a natural or manmade disaster requires extra hands. In exhange, other towns supply us with manpower and equipment when we need it most. Thank you to the City of Aurora and the Village of Hanover Park who helped our crews following the Memorial Day storm.

BRUSH COLLECTION CONTINUES THROUGH FRIDAY, OCT. 18

THE VILLAGE OF OSWEGO has two brush Place unbundled brush parallel or collection zones for residential properties. Zone A includes all properties east of the Fox River and north of Route 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 Route 34 as well as those properties west of the Fox River and south of Mill Road. The final brush collection weeks of the year are:

Zone A Zone B September 3 September 9 October 7 October 14

Brush is defined as tree and bush branches that are less than 5" in diameter. The brush collection program is not intended to handle branches, logs, or tree stumps from large-scale tree trimming or removal. Crews will not pick up logs, wood, root balls, cuttings, or grass clippings.

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. 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.

Place all brush at the curb by 7 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.

The Village does not accept landscaping waste generated by contractors. Crews will not remove brush from commercial. industrial, or other non-residential properties.

FROM THE VILLAGE ARBORIST

FOR NATURE'S FREE FERTILIZER, JUST SKIP RAKING

SOON, THE DAYS will be cooler and the leaves will begin to turn their spectacular fall colors. Shortly after that, the leaves will begin to fall and raking will begin. Instead of bagging your leaves or raking them to the curb for pick up, consider using your leaves as a free a natural fertilizer for your lawn or garden.

Pound for pound, the leaves of most trees contain twice the mineral content

of manure and they provide the perfect nutrition for beneficial microbes. Leaves can be mulched into your lawn as you mow, used to insulate delicate roots from the cold winter or shredded and mixed into your garden to enhance the soil. This valuable, natural fertilizer is environmentally safe and will reduce the need for chemical fertilizers.

Best of all, the leaves are free!



Leaves are good as gold in the organic garden. Just mow over them for a great lawn come spring.

SEPT. 23 - OCT. 11

WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Public Works Department will be flushing water mains between Monday, Sept. 23, and Friday, Oct. 11, weather permitting. Crews will begin flushing at 7 a.m. Signs will be displayed to alert residents of the upcoming flushing. These signs will be placed throughout the Village the week before the flushing. It is best to complete laundry before 7 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on these days to avoid a possible rust discoloration of laundry. If your laundry does become discolored, please notify the Public Works Department at 630-554-3242.

The Public Works Department flushes fire hydrants in the spring and fall under the recommendation of the Illinois EPA. 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



Water main flushing flushes iron desposits and helps pull fresh water all the way through the line.

and pulling fresh water all the way to the end of the line.

Run cold water first

Before running your hot water, run

all cold water taps first to make sure the water is running clear. Once you are sure it is running clear, it is alright to run your hot water.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

The final week for yard waste bag collection is the week of Nov. 25th. Yard waste is grass or shrubbery cuttings, weeds, garden plants, leaves, small tree limbs and logs and other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines and trees. Dirt and woodchips are not yard waste and must be disposed of through your trash or by other means. Yard waste material will be collected only if it is placed in a 30-gal. Kraft paper bag. Yard waste is collected on your regularly scheduled garbage day. Have your yard waste, trash and recycling at your curb by 6 a.m. on your collection day. Each bag requires one yard waste sticker which may be purchased for \$2 at:

- Oswego Village Hall, 100 Parkers Mill
- · Ace Hardware, 4500 Route 71
- Jewel, 2540 Route 30 and 3795 Orchard Road
- Meijer, 2700 Route 34
- Walgreens, 410 Chicago Rd and 3401 Orchard Rd
- Lianes Family Pantry, 4574 Route 71 ■

LABOR DAY & THANKSGIVING

NO TRASH COLLECTION

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash on Monday, September 2, in observance of Labor Day and Thursday, November 28, in observance of Thanksgiving. Trash and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day during those weeks.

Have 401(k) questions? Let's talk.



Jim Cargo Financial Advisor 1063 Station Drive 0swego, IL 60543 630-636-6317 www.edwardjones.com

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

NOVEMBER 4-8

FREE FALL CLEAN-UP

Groot Industries will collect additional household waste, vard waste and bulk items for all Village residents the week of November 4-8, on your regularly scheduled garbage day for free.

Place all items at the curb by 6 a.m. along with your regular garbage and recycling on your normally scheduled garbage day.

Residents must place yard waste in 30-gallon kraft yard waste bags. Do not place yard waste in plastic

Stickers will not be required for this week only.

Residents cannot put out appliances, televisions, or electronics during this collection. Call Groot at 630-892-9294 to schedule a special pickup for these items.



Senior residents got breakfast, information about available discounts and resources, and a tour of the Oswego Police Headquarters on Tuesday, July 30.

'COFFEE AND CONVERSATION' OFFERS SENIORS **NEWS AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN OSWEGO**

THE FIRST Coffee and Conversation with Village President Troy Parlier was held on Tuesday, July 30, and brought about 70 senior residents together to ask questions, learn about available discounts and resources, and take a tour of the new Oswego Police Headquarters.

You can find information on senior discounts at www.oswegoil.org/seniordiscounts.aspx, or come to the next Coffee and Conversation to learn more about what's happening around town. Look for announcements in the newspaper, on Facebook, and at www.oswegoil.org.



59 S. Main Street Oswego, IL 60543 630.551.2300

Bike Sales Service & Rentals Bike Rentals - \$16 for 2 hours!

Organized Shop Rides - Road and Mountain! Bike Repair Classes available throughout the year, call for details.

www.oswegocyclery.com





PROPERTY OF THE SEASON



Demolition of the Red Brick School, 1965.



The Red Brick School, c. 1900.

The Red Brick School

THIS SEASON, the Oswego Historic Preservation Commission honors a property that no longer stands but served as an important community hub for nearly 80 years – the Red Brick School.

Built in 1886, the Red Brick School was located on Madison Street between Jefferson and Jackson Streets. The school rose from the (literal and figurative) ashes of two other important town structures, the Old Stone School and the vacant Kendall County Court House.

In 1885, fire destroyed the Old Stone School, displacing students in the middle of the school year. The old courthouse served as temporary classroom space but its crumbling condition forced Village residents to approve the construction of a new schoolhouse. The school district purchased the old courthouse and the property it stood on and began construction immediately, starting with the demolition of the old courthouse building. They commissioned Aurora architect Joseph P. Mulvey to design the new school, which featured a basement and two stories that would accommodate both elementary and high school students. The design had Italianate style elements with its tall windows, pediment roof form, intricate eave trim, dental detailing, and tower element.

In 1926, a new gymnasium was built onto the schoolhouse, in addition to new classroom and assembly space. This would be



the last expansion that the Red Brick School would see, even as Oswego grew and changed around it. In August of 1965, the building was demolished to make way for a new bank building and post office as the school district focused on accommodating the growing community's need for larger schools.



Family. Friends. Community.

Janna Misek, Agent 1136 Douglas Road Oswego, IL 60543 Bus: 630-554-1540 Mon-Thurs 9:00am to 8:00pm Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm Saturday 9:00am to 12:00pm Se habla Español We're all in this together.
State Farm® has a long tradition of being there.
That's one reason why I'm proud to support The Community of Oswego.
Here to help life go right.®



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SEPTEMBER

Village offices are closed for Labor Day. Trash collection is delayed by one day.

The **Oswego Village Board** meets at 7 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall to vote on Village business. Meetings are open to the public and include a public forum. A Committee of the Whole meeting precedes at 6 p.m. Agendas and live meeting streams are at www.oswegoil.org.

CabCab is back with the greatest cover band party of the summer! Tickets at www.arranmorefarmandpoloclub.com.

Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Committee of the Whole is at 6 p.m.

The **Downtown Traffic Open House** begins at 4:30 p.m. See details on page 5.

Learn how to raise capital for your growing business at "Funding A Small Business," a free Oswegrow workshop at 8:30 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library. More information at facebook.com/oswegrow.

Head to Prairie Point Community Park from 1 to 7 p.m. for **Brew at the Bridge**. Sample some of the greatest beer in the region, enjoy live music, delicious food, and a beautiful fall day in the park. Details on tasting packages at www.brewatthebridge.com.

Water main flushing begins this week and continues through Friday, Oct. 11. Avoid washing clothes during the day and call 630-554-3242 with guestions or reports of discolored clothes.

Join us for an Oswegrow business roundtable at 6:30 p.m. at the Oswego Public Library and learn the interpersonal skills needed to keep employees and others engaged and productive. More information at facebook.com/oswegrow.

Meet authors and get your books signed at the Oswego Literary Festival, sponsored by Sourcebooks, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall. Details on page 3.



OCTOBER

Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Committee of the Whole is at 6 p.m..

Visit with the "ghosts" of early Oswego residents and pioneers at the **Cemetery Walk**, hosted by the Oswegoland Heritage Society. More at GoOswego.org.

It's the final week of the year for **brush collection** in Zone A. See page 7.

It's the final week of the year for **brush collection** in Zone B. See page 7. It's also the start of **free leaf collection**. See page 6

for your zone and more information.

Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Committee of the Whole is at 6 p.m.

Drive traffic to your business' website and turn those visitors into paying customers at 'Developing a Business Plan with Digital Marketing Tools.'This free Oswegrow workshop is at 8:30 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library. More at facebook.com/oswegrow.

Happy Halloween! Trick-or-treating hours are 3:30 to 8 p.m.



NOVEMBER

Put your extra garbage to the curb for free fall **cleanup week** on your regular garbage day — no sticker needed! Details on page 9.

Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Committee of the Whole is at 6 p.m.

Village Hall is closed, and trash collection is postponed by one day in honor of **Veterans Day**.

Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Village Hall. Committee of the Whole is at 6 p.m.

It's the last week for bagged yard waste collection in 2019. See page 8.

Village Hall is closed Thursday and Friday, and trash collection is postponed by one day, in honor of Thanksgiving.







PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE

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Postal Customer



Sponsor the 2019 Oswego Christmas Walk!

Mark your calendar for Friday, Dec. 6th

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES are available by contacting Community Engagement Coordinator Julie Hoffman at **jhoffman@oswegoil.org**.

MAIN STREET BOOTHS for local nonprofits and businesses are available starting Sept. 3 by completing a form at www.oswegoil.org/news-and-events/christmaswalk.aspx. Fees are waived for nonprofits. Deadline: Nov. 1.

PROGRAM LISTINGS AND ADS can be submitted to **jsturges@oswegoil. org**. If your organization will be participating in Christmas Walk festivities, let us know and we'll add you to the program for free. Rates and sizes for ads are available at **www.oswegoil.org/news-and-events/christmaswalk.aspx.**



Thousands of Oswego residents join in on the festivities of the beloved Christmas Walk each year. Engage with families at a booth or through a sponsorship!





