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# Oswego Events

For more information, visit [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org).

**#Oswego Connects: A Community Rally**  
March 11th @ OEHS , 9am-2pm

**Bunny Hop**  
April 8th @ Downtown , 10am-2pm

**Wine on the Fox**  
May 6th & 7th, Hudson Crossing Park

**Oswego Beats & Eats**  
May 27th, July 29th, & August 26th

**Movies in the Park**  
June 7th, June 21st, July 19th & Aug.2nd

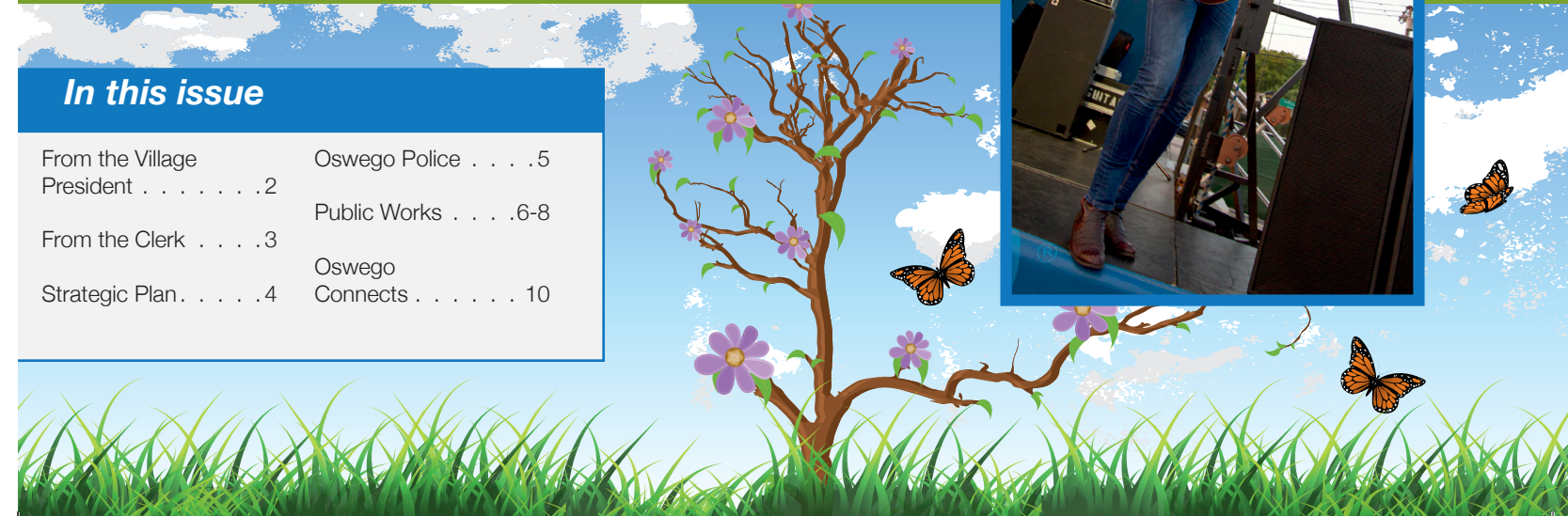
**Vietnam Moving Wall**  
June 29th - July 3rd, Prairie Point Park

**Independence Day Fireworks**  
July 4th @ Prairie Point Park



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# from the Village President

## OSWEGO VILLAGE BOARD

Gail Johnson . . . . . Village President  
Tina Touchette . . . . . Village Clerk  
Ryan Kauffman . . . . . Village Trustee  
Karin McCarthy-Lange . . . . . Village Trustee  
Pam Parr . . . . . Village Trustee  
Luis Perez . . . . . Village Trustee  
Judy Sollinger . . . . . Village Trustee  
Joe West . . . . . Village Trustee

## ADMINISTRATION

Daniel Di Santo . . . . . Village Administrator  
Jeff Burgner . . . . . Chief of Police  
Michele Brown . . . . . Community Relations Manager  
Christina Burns . . . . . Asst. Village Administrator/HR Director  
Corinna Cole . . . . . Economic Development Director  
Jay Hoover . . . . . Building and Zoning Manager  
Mark Horton . . . . . Finance Director  
Jennifer Hughes . . . . . Public Works Director  
Rod Zenner . . . . . Community Development Director



## Oswego News

This newsletter is published quarterly and mailed to over 14,000 Oswego postal customers. Comments, suggestions and questions are welcome at [info@oswegoil.org](mailto:info@oswegoil.org).

100 Parkers Mill  
Oswego, IL 60543  
630-554-3618  
(fax) 630-554-3306  
[www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org)

## VILLAGE DEPARTMENTS

Administration . . . . . 551-2360  
Building & Zoning . . . . . 554-2310  
Community Development . . . . . 554-3622  
Economic Development . . . . . 551-2335  
Finance . . . . . 554-0864  
Police (Non-Emergency) . . . . . 551-7300  
Public Works . . . . . 554-3242  
Village Clerk . . . . . 554-3259  
Utility / Water Billing . . . . . 554-2282  
Newsletter Advertising . . . . . 554-4636

## Greetings Friends & Neighbors!

Oswego's residents really like living here. How do I know this—two community surveys conducted last year by separate entities clearly stated this fact: by and large the vast majority of our residents really like Oswego. That is special and unique, and quite frankly, not enough.

We want you to actively participate in our local events, shop at our businesses, engage to the point of volunteering, and actually feel a part of this community. People become engaged when they LOVE where they live. When people love where they live, they not only support their community, they will promote it and stay connected.

According to Peter Kageyama (For the Love of Cities): "Cities need to inspire (a) spirit of creativity and generosity in order to draw in creative, entrepreneurial and innovative people of all kinds."

In 2016 our theme was Oswego Connects; this year, I challenge you to intensify your connections and **Love & Serve** Oswego!

Did you know that last December many of our staff at the Village (and their family and friends) participated in a Saturday of service at the Kendall County Community Food Pantry? On a day off, they gathered at the Food Pantry to help assemble holiday meal kits for the pantry guests. It was an amazing turn out for our first event of its kind. Trustees Sollinger and McCarthy-Lange joined in, too. I am so proud of the dedication our Village staff have not only to their jobs, but also to our community. **Love & Serve**.

On Saturday, March 11 we will be hosting a new event at Oswego East High School: Oswego Connects: Community Rally. There will be a variety of organizations and hobby groups gathered together so that you can walk through and discover what these wonderful groups do and see if you might enjoy getting involved. This will be a great, non-threatening way to find out what Rotary is all about, or what those Optimists really do, or how you can volunteer with Just Giants, or learn how to fish for muskies! The possibilities are endless. The event is scheduled from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. **Love & Serve**.

On Saturday, April 29 we are excited to announce Oswego's first community-wide Day of Service. We will have a variety of service projects with different organizations for anyone who wishes to participate. Just imagine what we can accomplish with an entire community volunteering for one day! **Love & Serve**.

There's no time like the present to start your action plan to love Oswego and serve in it each and every day. Here are a few ideas:

- Show up at Oswego Connects on March 11 ([www.oswegoconnects.com](http://www.oswegoconnects.com))



- Plan to participate in Oswego's Day of Service on April 29.

- Become an ambassador for Oswego. Simply talk to people about what you love: restaurants, shops, people, parks, etc. When we spread the news about what we love, people will want to visit and feel some of your passion.

- Get involved. Join a club, run for office, work on a committee, volunteer, or simply attend a meeting or two. Find out the facts behind the stories you read in the paper and on social media.

- Take part in the Vietnam Moving Wall memorial that will be in Oswego June 29 – July 3.

- Attend our festivals. There's so many to choose from: Wine on the Fox (May 6 & 7), Beats and Eats (May 27, July 29, and August 26); Oswegoland Park District's PrairieFest (June 15-18),

Imagine the difference we could make if each and every one of our 33,000 residents took this challenge!

And this list is just the beginning. There are endless possibilities to fall in love with Oswego and serve it every day. For those of you already in love, thank you for your passion and service to our community. For those of you just beginning the journey—welcome! We look forward to seeing the difference you will make. Now, let's bring on spring!

Sincerely,

*Gail Johnson*  
Village President

## 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

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Jennifer Diederich, Director  
630-551-4454

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Send email for schedule or visit [allcalibers.com](http://allcalibers.com)



## Save the Dates

Live Music, Food Trucks, & More!

May 27<sup>th</sup>

July 29<sup>th</sup>

August 26<sup>th</sup>

[www.oswegobeatsandeats.com](http://www.oswegobeatsandeats.com)

## #OswegoConnects COMMUNITY RALLY

9am-2pm March 11<sup>th</sup> @ Oswego East High School

### Want to volunteer but don't know where to start?

Join 50+ organizations from the Oswegoland area at the #OswegoConnects Community Rally on Saturday, March 11, 2017 in the Oswego East High School Atrium. Learn about the many opportunities to volunteer and get connected with those with similar interests in the Oswegoland area!

Community Organizations and Service Groups will be available to provide more details about their groups and help you cultivate your passions or learn about something new. For more information, contact the Village of Oswego at 630-554-4636 or [info@oswegoil.org](mailto:info@oswegoil.org).

[www.oswegoconnects.com](http://www.oswegoconnects.com)

### ■ Voter Registration

Individuals registering to vote must have two (2) forms of identification with at least one showing their current name residence address (i.e. photo ID; utility bill). To register to vote you must:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be at least 18 years of age by Election Day
- Be a resident of the precinct at least 30 days prior to Election Day
- Bring two (2) acceptable forms of ID
- If you are a naturalized citizen please bring your papers with you or know the court, city, state and date of naturalization; the registration form requires this information

Last day to register to vote for the April 4th Consolidated Elections is Tuesday, March 7th.

#### Voter Registration Locations:

##### Village Hall

100 Parkers Mill, Oswego  
8:00am-5:00 pm. M-F

##### Library District- Oswego Campus

32 West Jefferson St.  
630-554-3150

**\*\*Please contact them directly for availability of registrars at their locations**

##### Oswegoland Park District

630-554-1010

**\*\*Please contact them directly for availability of registrars at their locations**

##### Kendall County Clerk's Office

111 W. Fox Street, Room 103 Yorkville, IL  
8:30am-4:30pm

Voter registration forms and a complete list of voter registration locations can be found on the Kendall County Clerk's website at <http://www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/>

#### 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 Kendall County Clerk's web page at: <http://www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/16132-2/>

### ■ 2017 Consolidated Election

#### April 4, 2017

The polls of election will be open from 6:00am - 7:00pm on Tuesday, April 4, 2017. Vote in your assigned precinct.

Important Reminder: Please be sure to check your Kendall County polling location and registration prior to Election Day. The Election & Voter information page can found at [www.co.kendall.il.us](http://www.co.kendall.il.us).

### ■ Early Voting at Oswego Village Hall 100 Parkers Mill (Community Room)

#### Consolidated Election

March 20th - 24th . . . . . 8:00am- 6:00pm

March 25th . . . . . 8:00am- 2:00pm

March 27th - 30th . . . . . 8:00am- 6:00pm

*Hours of operation may be subject to change.*

For more information on early voting and other voting options please contact the Kendall County Clerk's Office at 630-553-4104, 111. W. Fox Street, Yorkville, IL.





## ■ Strategic Plan

The Village Board kicked off the beginning of 2017 by adopting a new Strategic Plan for the Village of Oswego.

The plan identifies five strategic priorities that will be the Board's focus over the next three years: financial sustainability, infrastructure maintenance and expansion, community engagement, effective growth and development, and a productive and engaged workforce. The full plan can be found online at [www.oswegoil.org](http://www.oswegoil.org).

The plan was developed during three workshops with the Village Board and the management team in November and December in 2016. The final plan was adopted by the Village Board at its February 7 Village Board Meeting.

The Board also reviewed and revised the Vision, Mission and Values for the Village. These serve as a framework for the Board's decision making and the Village staff's operation moving forward. They are as follows:

- Vision: Oswego will continue to be a friendly, caring, and forward-thinking community that provides a high quality of life based upon sustainable growth and a respect for our rich heritage and environment.
- Mission: It is our mission to responsibly grow our community and maintain the public's trust. We do this through the innovative and collaborative delivery of public services that meet the community's quality of life expectations.
- Values: Integrity, Accountability, Innovative, Pride in Work Performed, Community

The newly adopted plan identifies desired outcomes, targets and strategic initiatives the Village intends to undertake in order to achieve the strategic priorities. Staff will regularly report to the Village Board on the progress with each strategic initiative. The targets provide for a data-driven approach to measure success in the key areas.

The Village's last strategic plan ran from 2012 to 2017.

## ■ MetroNet

MetroNet is currently in the process of building out its network in Oswego, which when completed will provide fiber-to-the-home internet and video services.

The Village granted a cable franchise agreement to MetroNet, which permits the construction of the network within utility easements throughout the community. In many cases, this means MetroNet crews will be working in resident's yards throughout the community. The construction will take place fully within the easement, and may include the location of small utility boxes within the easement. To the extent possible, MetroNet attempts to locate these utility boxes near similar utility access boxes. MetroNet is also responsible for the restoration of the landscaping upon completion of work in a given area. Landscape restoration may not occur in some cases until spring. Residents should be aware that anything placed in the easement (decorative landscaping, hardscaping, etc.) is done so at the resident's own risk.

Residents with questions about the construction, construction process or with concerns may contact MetroNet directly at 877-386-3876. Additional information is also available at [www.metro-netinc.com/construction](http://www.metro-netinc.com/construction).

## ■ 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](http://www.oswegoil.org/ED)  
630-551-2334

## Wine on the Fox

at Hudson Crossing Park

**Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 11am-8pm**  
**Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 12pm-6pm**

*info: [www.wineonthefox.com](http://www.wineonthefox.com) or 630.554.4636*

**Oswego's Premier Wine Event!**

Wine tasting is \$15 per day for a souvenir wine glass, wristband, and 5 tasting tickets.

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 I.D. to taste wines!



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Agent

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## Water shutoff valve

Do you know where your indoor water shutoff valve is? There are times when a leak can occur in the water service line inside the house 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.



## With warmer temperatures and rainy forecasts, today is a great day to test your sump pump.

- Make sure the power cord is connected and in good shape.
- Check the basin for debris and remove anything that could clog the system.
- Consult your owner's manual for instructions on maintaining the pump and backup battery.
- Check that the fluids in the battery are at the proper levels in accordance with the owner's manual.
- Fill the basin with a bucket of water until the pump kicks on. Adjust the float, if necessary.
- If you have a backup pump, make sure that it is working as well.
- Look outside to see where the pump is discharging. Make sure that the pipe is not frozen and that water has a clear path away from the house.



■ Water Main Flushing

April 17 - 28

The Public Works Department will be flushing water mains during the two week period of April 4th – April 28th (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 the spring and fall 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.

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■ Water Conservation

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 which have enacted conservation regulations to help ensure that 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 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT  
THE OSWEGO SENIOR CENTER

Spring Art & Craft Fair  
Saturday, March 18

Culinary Expo  
Tuesday, April 4

Adaptive Living Fair  
Wednesday, April 12

Scam Awareness Day  
Wednesday, May 3

Celebrating Women Ladies  
Luncheon  
Wednesday, May 10

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■ Identity Theft

As tax season approaches, the Oswego Police Department wants to make its citizens aware of a rise in tax related identity theft. Unfortunately, people often find out their identity has been stolen and used fraudulently only after they have filed their taxes and been denied a refund by the IRS. The denial is based off taxes having already been filed using their social security number and a fraudulent refund obtained by the offender.

The IRS, with the assistance of local law enforcement, is working hard to prevent, detect and assist victims of tax-related identity theft. If someone makes a fraudulent claim using your social security number the first thing you need to do is make a police report with your local police department. The police will guide you through the process of filling out an IRS Identity Theft Affidavit and an IRS Tax Information Authorization. This will assist the police in obtaining the fraudulent tax filing and determining where the fraudulent filing occurred. You can find more information on the IRS website: <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/identity-protection>

There are several steps that you can take to prevent identity theft:

- Learn to recognize and avoid phishing emails and be wary of giving out personal information over the phone, email, text or social media to anyone claiming to be from the IRS, a bank, or a credit card company. The IRS doesn't initiate contact with taxpayers by email to request personal or financial information. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as text messages and social media channels. The IRS does not call taxpayers with threats of lawsuits or arrests.

- Protect your personal data. Don't routinely carry your Social Security card, and make sure your tax records are secure. Treat your personal information like you do your cash; don't leave it lying around.

- Always use security software with firewall and anti-virus protections. Make sure the security software is always turned on and can automatically update. Encrypt sensitive files such as tax records you store on your computer. Use strong passwords.

- There are companies that offer identity theft insurance. Be advised, this insurance does not protect you from identity theft. However, the insurance may include credit alerts, account and credit monitoring, and reimbursement for the costs associated with repairing your credit history.

Common Tax Scams

- Phone Scams: Phone calls from criminals impersonating IRS agents remain an ongoing threat to taxpayers. The IRS has seen a surge of these phone scams in recent years as scam artists threaten taxpayers with police arrest, deportation and license revocation, among other things.

- Phishing: Taxpayers need to be on guard against fake emails or websites looking to steal personal information. The IRS will never send taxpayers an email about a bill or refund out of the blue. Don't click on one claiming to be from the IRS. Be wary of strange emails and websites that may be nothing more than scams to steal personal information.

- Return Preparer Fraud: Be on the lookout for unscrupulous return preparers. The vast majority of tax professionals provide honest high-quality service. But there are some dishonest preparers who set up shop each filing season to perpetrate refund fraud, identity theft and other scams that hurt taxpayers. Legitimate tax professionals are a vital part of the U.S. tax system.

- Offshore Tax Avoidance: The recent string of successful enforcement actions against offshore tax cheats and the financial organizations that help them shows that it's a bad bet to hide money and income offshore. Taxpayers are best served by coming in voluntarily and getting caught up on their tax-filing responsibilities. The IRS offers the Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Program (OVDP) to enable people catch up on their filing and tax obligations.

- Inflated Refund Claims: Taxpayers need to be on the lookout for anyone promising inflated refunds. Be wary of anyone who asks taxpayers to sign a blank return, promises a big refund before looking at their records, or charges fees based on a percentage of the refund. Scam artists use flyers, advertisements, phony store fronts and word-of-mouth via community groups where trust is high to find victims.

- Fake Charities: Be on guard against groups masquerading as charitable organizations to attract donations from unsuspecting contributors. Be wary of charities with names similar to familiar or nationally-known organizations. Contributors should take a few extra minutes to ensure their hard-earned money goes to legitimate and currently eligible charities. IRS.gov has the tools taxpayers need to check out the status of charitable organizations.

- Falsely Padding Deductions: Taxpayers should avoid the temptation of falsely inflating deductions or expenses on their returns to under pay what they owe or possibly receive larger refunds. Think twice before overstating deductions such as charitable contributions and business expenses or improperly claiming such credits as the Earned Income Tax Credit or Child Tax Credit.

- Excessive Claims for Credits: Avoid improperly claiming the fuel tax credit, a tax benefit generally not available to most taxpayers. The credit is generally limited to off-highway business use, including use in farming. Taxpayers should also avoid misuse of the research credit. Improper claims generally involve failures to participate in or substantiate qualified research activities and/or satisfy the requirements related to qualified research expenses.

- Falsifying Income to Claim Credits: Don't invent income to erroneously qualify for tax credits, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit. Taxpayers are sometimes talked into doing this by scam artists. Taxpayers are best served by filing the most-accurate return possible because they are legally responsible for what is on their return. This scam can lead to taxpayers facing big bills to pay back taxes, interest and penalties. In some cases, they may even face criminal prosecution.

- Identity Theft: Taxpayers need to watch out for identity theft especially around tax time. The IRS continues to aggressively pursue the criminals that file fraudulent returns using someone else's Social Security number. Though the agency is making progress on this front, taxpayers still need to be extremely careful and do everything they can to avoid being victimized.

- Abusive Tax Shelters: Don't use abusive tax structures to avoid paying taxes. The IRS is committed to stopping complex tax avoidance schemes and the people who create and sell them.

- Frivolous Tax Arguments: Don't use frivolous tax arguments in an effort to avoid paying a tax. Promoters of frivolous schemes encourage taxpayers to make unreasonable and outlandish claims, even though they are wrong and have been repeatedly thrown out of court. While taxpayers have the right to contest their tax liabilities in court, no one has the right to disobey the law or disregard their responsibility to pay taxes. The penalty for filing a frivolous tax return is \$5,000.

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# Public Works

## Yard waste pick up

Yard waste pick up will begin the week of April 3rd and will continue weekly until Friday, December 1st. The State of Illinois defines yard waste as grass or shrubby 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.

## No Trash Pickup on Memorial Day

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash on Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day. Trash pickup on Monday will be delayed by one day according to the following schedule:

Monday will be picked up on Tuesday, Tuesday will be picked up on Wednesday, Wednesday pick up will be on Thursday, Thursday pick up will be on Friday and Friday pick up will be on Saturday.

The next holiday that will be observed by Groot Industries will be Tuesday, July 4th.



## Yard Waste Subscription Program with Groot

As an alternative option to the sticker, the subscription program allows residents to place both yard waste and food scrap compost in a 95 gallon cart designated for weekly collection. In partnership with the Village of Oswego, the creation of the new program is aimed to help residents reduce the amount of garbage being sent to area landfills. This optional program is available at a rate of \$120.00 per season. Biodegradable food waste is permitted to be mixed with yard waste as part of this program that includes fruits and vegetables only.

### The following items will not be accepted:

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| •Glass       | •Plastics       |
| •Styrofoam   | •Diapers        |
| •Pet Litter  | •Liquids        |
| •Grease/Oils | •Meat/Poultry   |
| •Seafood     | •Paper Products |

## ■ 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:

Zone A	Zone B
<b>April 3</b>	<b>April 10</b>
<b>May 1</b>	<b>May 8</b>
<b>June 5</b>	<b>June 12</b>
<b>July 3</b>	<b>July 10</b>
<b>August 7</b>	<b>August 14</b>
<b>September 4</b>	<b>September 11</b>
<b>October 2</b>	<b>October 9</b>

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.

## ■ Call JULIE before you dig!

Whether you are doing simple work such as planting trees or bushes, or more complicated work such as building a house, know that hidden dangers may lurk below the ground. Unseen, but always present are underground pipelines, cables and other facilities that energy, communications and other companies and municipalities use to provide services that make for a better standard of living. Underground facilities can be damaged or ruptured by tools, power equipment or explosives, and includes, grading, trenching, digging, ditching, drilling,

auguring, boring, tunneling, scrapping, cable or pipe plowing and driving. Loss of natural gas, telephone, water or electricity can leave communities without such vital services as fire, police and medical protection. When damaged, these services can endanger public safety and property – they can also be expensive and time consuming to repair.

### State law requires that you call JULIE to assist with finding such lines.

**TOLL FREE 1-800-892-0123 or 811  
TWO WORKING DAYS BEFORE YOU  
DIG (Excluding Saturdays, Sundays &  
Holidays)  
OPERATES 24 HOURS/365 DAYS A YEAR**

JULIE, also known as the Illinois One-Call System, gives property owners, contractors and excavators a way of contacting owners of underground facilities who are members of JULIE. This locating request information is sent to the JULIE member companies who have facilities in the requested locating area. The call is informed which JULIE member companies will be notified and also that the caller is encouraged to search the area for the facilities of non-JULIE members and notify them on their own.

**For more information, please visit  
[www.julie1call.com](http://www.julie1call.com)  
or call 811 or 815-741-5000.**

## ■ Benefits of Mulching

Mulching your plant material will help with the life expectancy of your newly planted trees. Mulches are materials placed on the soil surface to reduce moisture evaporation and improve soil conditions. The best type of mulch material is hardwood mulch. Mulching has several benefits; it will reduce water evaporation, minimize weeds, reduce soil erosion and improve soil aeration. The soil will be kept cool in the summer and warmer in the winter. Mulching will also give a neat clean finished look to your landscape, help prevent mower damage and develop a more extensive root system. Sod left around the tree base will deplete the nutrients from the tree. Mulch should be placed around the tree base out to the drip line or a 4-5' diameter around the tree. The mulch layer should be approximately 4" in depth and not placed against the tree trunk. Crown rot can occur in trees when mulch or dirt is placed against the above ground trunk bark. Plastic should not be used under the mulch since this will reduce water and infiltration in the root zone. If you have any questions please call Public Works at 630-554-3242.

## ■ Parkway Trees

### Urban Canopy

Trees in the parkway are owned by the Village of Oswego. The parkway is generally defined as the area between the curb and sidewalk. There are more than 16,500 trees in the parkway so the Village asks residents to help maintain the trees by watering during extended dry spells and doing light pruning to keep sidewalks clear.

Trees are important for many different reasons. Trees provide us with shade that helps cool us in the summer and reduce the need for air conditioning. They also beautify our neighborhoods and improve our property value. Trees also help to combat climate change by cleaning the air and removing carbon dioxide while releasing oxygen.

### Tree Inspections

Trees are regularly inspected by a village arborist. The arborist is looking for cracks in the trunk, broken or hanging branches, obstruction of streets and sidewalks, and clear site of street signs. The arborist is also inspecting for signs of disease or insect infestation. At the same time we are checking for dead or dying trees that need to be removed. Contact the Public Works office at 630-554-3242 with any concerns you may have regarding your parkway tree.

### Tree Trimming

The village is currently on a 5-year pruning cycle which means once staff completes an area, those trees will be pruned again in approximately 5 years. Certified/trained staff will go through a designated subdivision and prune all parkway trees to a height that will allow traffic flow, which will include snow plow trucks and garbage trucks, bikes and pedestrians, signage clearance, and any other issues there may be. Although we are on the pruning cycle, residents may still call the Public Works office for individual tree maintenance issues, and we will send a staff member out to check the tree for any needed maintenance.. Staff is trained according to the National Pruning Standards.

### Tree Removal

Village crews or contractors remove dead trees within the right-of-way. The Ash tree is our largest project that has affected over 3,000 trees throughout the village. Before removing any parkway Ash tree, the tree is thoroughly examined by a trained Village Arborist. If there is any sign of the tree having the EAB (Emerald Ash Borer), the tree is marked for removal. Once the tree is marked, it will be removed. Later the stump will be ground out of the area dirt and seeded. With the large amount of Ash trees with which we are dealing, this process can be quite lengthy. We plan to remove all infested parkway Ash trees by the end of 2016. The stumps will be ground out and the tree replaced at no cost to the homeowner, provided there is room for a replacement.

### Tree Replacement

Due to the large number of Ash trees removed in the past few years, there is currently a backlog to replace trees. The Village generally replaces trees in the order they were removed. The backlog is approximately three years as of June 2016. The Village chooses the tree species suitable for installation within the right-of-way and with an eye towards species diversity.

If your tree was removed due to the Emerald Ash Bore or for any other reason, homeowners may choose to participate in the 50/50 tree replacement program. This program allows homeowners to select the species of the tree from a list provided by the village and be advanced to the top of the replacement list. If you choose to participate in the 50/50 replacement program you will be responsible for ½ of the cost of the tree that the village gets wholesale. You are not charged for the removal, the stump grinding, or the planting. Contact the Public Works office at 630-554-3242, to sign up for this program.

The Village plants trees in the spring and fall. No trees are planted between June 15 and September 15 due to summer heat.

## Spring Cleanup Week of April 24 – 28

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 24th – 28th, on your normal 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, televisions or electronics. Please place all items, along with your regular garbage and recycling, at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on your normal scheduled garbage day. If you have any questions regarding this pick up, please contact the Public Works Department @ 630-554-3242.



## ECO Earth Day Event Saturday, April 22nd , 9am-Noon Oswego Village Hall 100 Parkers Mill, Oswego

The Village's ECO Commission will hold an event on Saturday April 22nd in honor of Earth Day. The event will have a demonstration of a butterfly garden, composting, and raising chickens. Fox Metro will be hosting a drop off of medical prescriptions. Eye glasses, Styrofoam and packing materials may also be dropped off. There will be a book and bicycle exchange.

**NOT ACCEPTED:  
Electronics, Scrap Metal, TV's, or Household Items**

**Questions? Contact the ECO commission at  
[eco@oswegoil.org](mailto:eco@oswegoil.org)**