City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER

CITY COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY MESSAGE

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Needless to say, the past several months have been challenging for Crystal Lake. The COVID-19 global pandemic has dramatically changed our daily lives. We would like to express our thanks to the Crystal Lake community for abiding by the Governor's Stay at Home Order. As you may already know, the Order has been extended until the end of May. This has required, and will continue to require, a tremendous amount of sacrifice from our residents and business community. Your efforts will help stop the transmission of the virus. We are hopeful that our sacrifices are proving beneficial in the fight against the spread of the virus.

Despite the impact of the pandemic, we are confident that our City will recover. Many individuals, families, and businesses will need to both emotionally and financially recover. It's important that you know that resources exist to help in the recovery process. This newsletter highlights some of these resources.

In addition to taking care of others, self-care is very important. At times, the anxiety caused by the pandemic or the burden of caring for loved ones can be overwhelming. Find ways to reduce stress and anxiety through exercising and reaching out to friends and family. Social distancing does not have to mean social isolation. If you need assistance, the McHenry County Crisis Line and the McHELP App connect people to immediate crisis support information. Northwestern Medicine Crisis Services is a crisis line for people who are in need of immediate assistance for mental health emergencies. The McHenry County Mental Health Board can also provide information regarding mental health and substance abuse.

The McHenry County Department of Health COVID-19 Resources Directory can be accessed through the City's COVID-19/ Coronavirus webpage. The directory provides a listing of food assistance, mental health, job seeking and unemployment, and other resources. In addition, United Way 211 can be accessed by dialing 211 on your phone. You will be connected with someone that can provide you information regarding health and human services.

Resources are available for our local business community. The Business Assistance page of the City's website offers information about aid programs and loans available through the state and federal governments. Business owners can also register for webinars on the Business Assistance page.

The City of Crystal Lake is here to help. The City has a dedicated phone line and email address to answer COVID-19 questions. You can submit questions to info@crystallake.org or call (815) 356-2448.

We will make it through this crisis as strong as ever, working together as a community.

Sincerely,

Crystal Lake City Council

Inside:

COVID-19 **Coronavirus Resources**

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COVID-19/CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

City of Crystal Lake COVID-19/Coronavirus Webpage:
www.crystallake.org/our-community/covid-19-coronovirus-information

Business Assistance Resources:
www.crystallake.org/welcome-business/economic-development/incentives

McHenry County COVID-19 Community Resources:
www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-a-i/health-department/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/community-resources

United Way 211:
www.uwmchenry.org/our-partners/united-way-2-1-1/
United Way 211 is available 24/7 to make referrals to health and human service agencies — from mortgage, rent, and utility assistance to food banks, child care, health services, job training, clothing, emergency shelter, counseling and much more.
2-1-1 or 888-865-9903

Mental Health Resources:
The McHELP App is a quick click to reach immediate crisis support and information via text or voice. Anonymous access to trained, licensed crisis counselors in times of emergency, concern, anxiety or need. The app can be downloaded from Apple Store or Google Play.

Northwestern Medicine Crisis Services serves as the first point of contact for callers in need of immediate assistance for mental health emergencies. Crisis line professionals are also available to help people with intense personal, family and/or marital problems. 1-800-892-8900

The McHenry County Mental Health Board is able to assist with questions regarding mental health and substance abuse resources available in McHenry County. 815-455-2828
www.mchenrycountyil.gov/county-government/departments-j-z/mental-health-board

Call4Calm – Illinois Department of Human Services free emotional support text line. Text "TALK" to 5-5-2-0-2-0. For Spanish text "HABLAR" to the same number.

IMPORTANT CALENDAR CHANGES

Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony Cancellation

Due to the Governor's Stay at Home Order and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony scheduled for Monday, May 25, 2020 has been cancelled.

This decision was made due to the extension of the Governor's Stay at Home Order until the end of May.



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), State of Illinois and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the McHenry County Department of Health (MCDH) recommend social distancing of at least six feet in between people and prohibit gatherings of large groups of people.

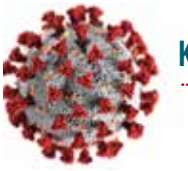
Three Oaks Recreation Area

Due to the extension of the Governor's Stay at Home Order until the end of May, the opening of the Beach on Saturday, May 23, 2020 at The Three Oaks Recreation Area will be delayed. The Marina will also remain closed until further notice.

The Park is open daily at 6:30 a.m. until Sunset. The walking trails are open at this time, but patrons are asked to please use social distancing practices while utilizing them.

Residents are asked to visit the City's website or the Three Oaks Recreation Area Facebook page for updates regarding the Park.

What you should know about COVID-19 to protect yourself and others



Know about COVID-19

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.
- The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.
- COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness.



Know how COVID-19 is spread

- You can become infected by coming into close contact (about 6 feet or two arm lengths) with a person who has COVID-19. COVID-19 is primarily spread from person to person.
- You can become infected from respiratory droplets when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks.
- You may also be able to get it by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it, and then by touching your mouth, nose, or eyes.



Protect yourself and others from COVID-19

- There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Stay home as much as possible and avoid close contact with others.
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your nose and mouth in public settings.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



Practice social distancing

- Buy groceries and medicine, go to the doctor, and complete banking activities online when possible.
- If you must go in person, stay at least 6 feet away from others and disinfect items you must touch.
- Get deliveries and takeout, and limit in-person contact as much as possible.



Prevent the spread of COVID-19 if you are sick

- Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Avoid public transportation, ride-sharing, or taxis.
- Separate yourself from other people and pets in your home.
- There is no specific treatment for COVID-19, but you can seek medical care to help relieve your symptoms.
- If you need medical attention, call ahead.



Know your risk for severe illness

- Everyone is at risk of getting COVID-19.
- Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more severe illness.

CDC

CS 314937A 04/15/2020

cdc.gov/coronavirus

State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

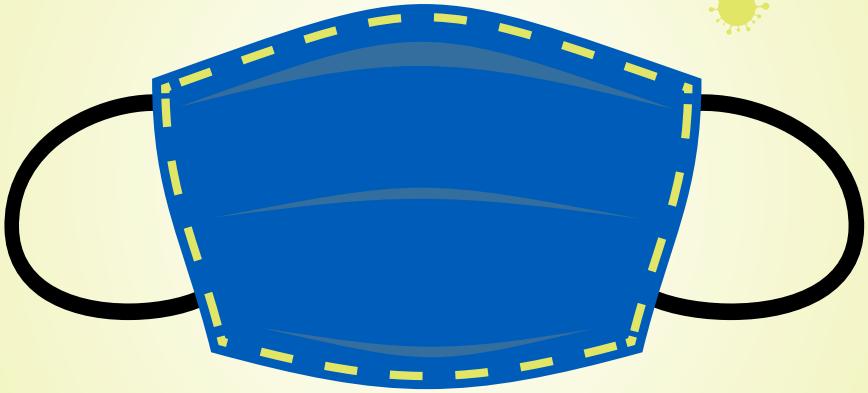
COVID-19
Face Covering Do's & Don'ts

DO:

- ✓ Make sure you can breathe through it
- ✓ Wear it whenever going out in public
- ✓ Make sure it covers your nose and mouth
- ✓ Wash after using

DON'T:

- ✗ Use on children under age 2
- ✗ Use surgical masks or other personal protective equipment (PPE) intended for health care workers



How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering

Cloth face coverings should:

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape



IDPH
Illinois Department of Public Health

Questions about COVID-19?
Call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov
Illinois Department of Public Health - www.dph.illinois.gov

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK



National Police Week is Sunday, May 10 through Saturday, May 16, 2020. In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation which designated May 15th as Peace Officers Memorial Day and the week in which that date falls as Police Week. National Police Week is a time where the country honors the fallen men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

USE OF ONLINE SELF-REPORTING AND PHONE REPORTING DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

If you are a victim of a minor crime, such as; a gas drive-off (theft), criminal damage to property, criminal damage to a vehicle, or fraud you may call our non-emergency phone number at (815) 356-3620 and speak to an officer over the phone. You may also visit our website, www.crystallake.org under the "How Do I?" tab, to gain access to the self-reporting system.

The safety of our responders and the community we serve is our number one priority.

REMINDER

Residents are reminded that all dogs must be kept under restraint.

An owner or person having custody of any dog or any other animal shall not permit said dog or any other animal to defecate on any school ground, public street, alley, sidewalk, tree bank, park or any other public grounds or any private property within the City, other than the premises of the owner or person having custody of said dog or other animal, unless said defecation is removed immediately by the owner or person having custody of the dog or other animal to a proper receptacle located on the property of the owner or the person having custody of the dog or other animal.

Officer Sal Alfano - (815) 444-5956 or by email at salfano@crystallake.org

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

MAY IS NATIONAL ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

Each year, home electrical fires account for roughly 42,210 fires, nearly 500 deaths, leave 1,370 injured, and $1.4 billion in property damage. Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) shares some great tips to reduce these risks.



Prevention Strategies:

- Understand the basics of your home electrical system
- Install advanced electrical safety technologies
- Properly maintain your system and components
- Identify and correct potential electrical hazards

Preparation Strategies:

- Install smoke alarms according to current recommendations
- Test smoke alarms monthly
- Prepare a fire escape plan
- Have two ways out of each room
- Practice your fire escape plan with fire drills

Source: www.esfi.org/fire-prevention

BRUSH PICK-UP PROGRAM

The City's Annual Brush Pick-Up Program will begin May 4, 2020. Please see the map displaying when your area of the City will be serviced. When it is your week for pick-up, please have brush at the curb by 6:00 a.m. that Monday. Brush must be six inches or less in diameter and six feet or less in length to be accepted. Other, materials, such as bagged leaves and grass, will not be accepted during pick-up. The pick-up zones will be as follows:

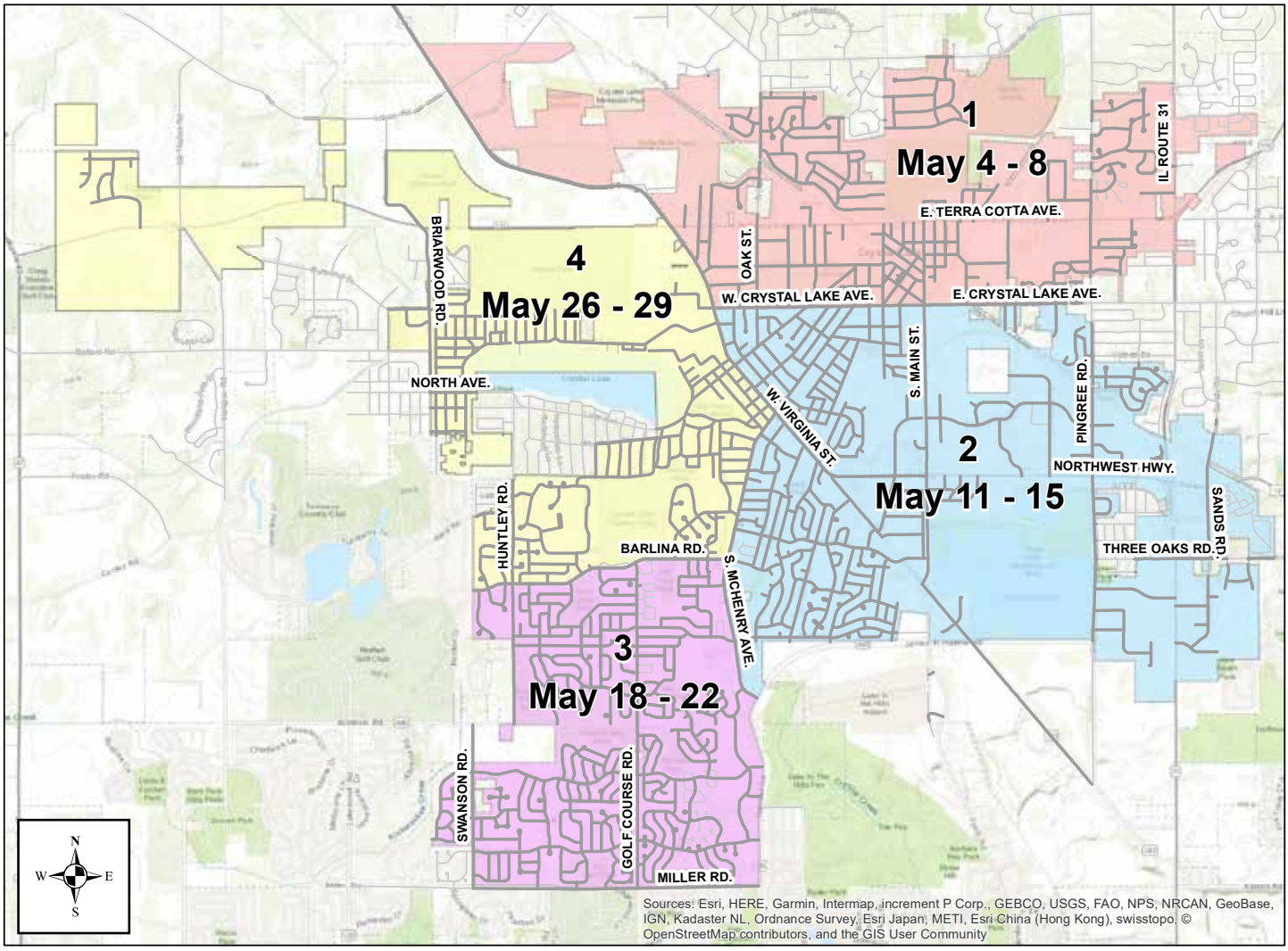
Zone 1(May 4-8): East of Route 14/Virginia Street and North of Crystal Lake Avenue

Zone 2 (May 11-15): East of Route 14/Virginia Street; East of McHenry Avenue; and South of Crystal Lake Avenue

Zone 3 (May 18-22): West of McHenry Avenue/Randall Road and South of Barlina Road

Zone 4 (May 26-29): West of Route 14/Virginia Street; West of McHenry Avenue; and North of Barlina Road

CITY OF CRYSTAL LAKE - 2020 BRUSH PICKUP ZONES



2020 LAKE USAGE DECALS

In addition to the rules and regulations of the State of Illinois, all watercraft on Crystal Lake must display a current "Lake Usage Decal" and be registered to a resident of the Crystal Lake Park District.

Lake Usage Decals for the 2020 boating season will be available for purchase at the Crystal Lake Police Department beginning Monday, May 4, 2020. The following documents are required to purchase your Lake Usage Decal:

- Valid driver's license
- A Lake Usage Decal Application: Available at Crystal Lake City Hall or online at www.crystallake.org
- Valid Illinois boat registration (for nonhuman powered watercraft)

Prices for the Lake Usage Decal are as follows:

- Human Powered - $20.00* (canoes, kayaks and rowboats)
- Non-human Powered - $30.00 (motorboats, sailboats, sailboards, jet skis)

*If a motor is added to a human-powered watercraft, the higher fee applies.

Boat launch keys are available for purchase at from the Crystal Lake Park District at 1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue.

CITY OF CRYSTAL LAKE VEHICLE STICKERS

Vehicle stickers will be available for purchase at City Hall once the Illinois Governor's Stay at Home Order is lifted. We encourage all customers to continue to follow social distancing rules by completing purchases online, by mail, or by using the City's payment drop box. Below are five options that are available for purchasing vehicle stickers.

1. **Online:** Vehicle sticker purchases can be completed by visiting www.crystallake.org. You will be required to enter the online purchase pin from your renewal form. The Finance Department is available by phone at 815-459-2020 if you have lost your renewal form or have trouble locating your pin.
2. **By Mail:** Return your renewal form and payment by mail using the self-addressed envelope provided with your preprinted form or by mailing your renewal form and payment to the City of Crystal Lake, Attn: Finance Department, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014.
3. **Payment Drop Box:** Return your renewal form and payment using the City's payment drop box that is located in the parking lot at City Hall.
4. **Satellite Locations:** Bring your renewal form and payment to any one of the City's satellite locations listed on the insert that is included with your renewal notice. Satellite locations may not accept preprinted renewal forms that have been changed or modified. A convenience fee may apply.
5. **In-Person:** Once the Stay at Home Order is lifted, bring renewal forms and payment to the Finance Department window in City Hall.

Preprinted forms will be mailed at the end of May. A valid sticker must be displayed on all vehicles registered in the City. Residents who do not receive a preprinted form will be required to show proof of ownership, i.e. Illinois registration showing current Crystal Lake address and a driver's license. Blank forms are available on the City's website at www.crystallake.org.

Senior citizens, age 65 and older (with proof of age), are able to purchase one vehicle sticker for $1.00 per person.

Residents are required to display a current City sticker on the lower passenger side of their front windshield. All funds generated from the sale of vehicle stickers are used in the City's street resurfacing and reconstruction program. Valid vehicle stickers also allow for free parking at the Three Oaks Recreation Area.

Please contact the Finance Department at 815-459-2020 or finance@crystallake.org if you have questions regarding vehicle stickers.

	06/01
Passenger/Trucks with B Plates	$10.00
Motorcycle/Mopeds	$10.00
RV Plates	$14.25
Trucks with D Plates	$20.00
All other	$30.00

THE MAN BEHIND THE SCENES

BY DIANA KENNEY

The last graduation at the old Crystal Lake High School on Paddock Street took place in 1923. Among the twenty-eight graduating seniors was Robert Vincent Knox.

Robert Knox was born November 17, 1905, one of nine children born to Michael and Mary Ann (Doherty) Knox. The Knox family lived on a farm northeast of Crystal Lake near the intersection of Route 31 and Edgewood Road.

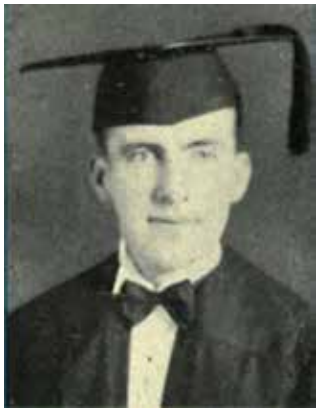


Knox family photo (ca 1911): Edward, baby Mabel, Mary Ann Doherty Knox (mother), Robert, Frances, Harold, Michael Knox (father). Daughter Florence took the picture.

Robert attended the Terra Cotta School for grades 1 through 8, then Crystal Lake High School for grades 9 through 12. After graduation, he went on to major in architecture at the University of Notre Dame, graduating in 1928.

To supplement his income and knowledge, Robert worked during his summers home from college in the Drafting Department at the American Terra Cotta Co. factory. The company manufactured architectural terra cotta which was used on buildings across the country. Many famous buildings in Chicago such as the Wrigley Building on Michigan Avenue are clad with terra cotta made in Crystal Lake.

After graduating from Notre Dame, Robert Knox went to work for Elmer Behrns' architectural firm in Chicago. Elmer Behrns



is the architect who designed the El Tovar Theatre (now known as Raue Center for the Arts). In a brilliant move, Behrns assigned his new employee and Crystal Lake native, Robert Knox, to oversee the day-to-day construction of the El Tovar. Robert knew the community and the local tradesmen. Perhaps his work experience with the American Terra Cotta Co. may have influenced the theatre's façade being adorned with terra cotta. Under Robert's careful watch, the theatre was completed in August 1929.

In the 1930s, Robert moved to Springfield and worked as an architect for the State of Illinois. He met his wife Lucille Sharp in Springfield, and they were married on November 26, 1938. In 1940, Robert moved his family to St. Joseph, Michigan to take a position with the architectural firm of Wallace Preston.



During WWII, Robert served as an officer in the United States Navy. In 1944, he was on a Navy lighter (a flat-bottomed boat used to carry heavy loads) near Boston Harbor. The lighter was dumping old and condemned ammunition from the Hingham depot when it suddenly exploded. Seventeen men were killed, and thirteen survived, including Robert Knox. Robert suffered a fractured skull and a brain injury. His injuries caused him pain for the rest of his life.

After the War, Robert Knox returned to St. Joseph and worked for architect Homer Harper. After Harper's tragic death from a car accident, Knox purchased Harper's architectural firm. In just a few short years, Robert made a name for himself, designing a number of schools, churches, and homes in Berrien and Van Buren counties in Michigan.

On November 25, 1950, Robert V. Knox, age 45, died suddenly in a clinic in London, England. He was en route to Rome on a Holy pilgrimage at the time of his death. Robert had just completed a visit to where his family came from – County Kilkenny, Ireland.

Although southwest Michigan boasts many of the last buildings Robert V. Knox designed or worked on, Crystal Lake is home to one of his first. The next time you are able to attend a performance at the Raue Center for the Arts, look around at the architectural details, and take time to remember "the man behind the scenes".

Note: photos in this article were provided by the Knox/Wyman family

About the Author: Diana Kenney is Executive Director of Downtown Crystal Lake/Main Street, is an appointed member of the City of Crystal Lake's Historic Preservation Commission, and is President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society.

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the federal law that protects public drinking water supplies throughout the nation. Under the SDWA, the EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and with its partners implements various technical and financial programs to ensure drinking water safety.

The SDWA requires that all water utilities produce and distribute a water quality report each year, which is also called a Consumer Confidence Report. This report includes a comparison of drinking water test results to federal drinking water standards, information about municipal water sources and an overview of treatment processes.

The Crystal Lake Public Works Department is committed to providing safe water to our customers, and we are strong supporters of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Crystal Lake Annual Water Quality Report is available at:
El Informe anual de calidad del Agua de Crystal Lake esta disponible en:
https://www.crystallake.org/home/showdocument?id=18562

If you would like a paper copy mailed to your home, please call: (815) 356 - 3614.



REFUSE AND RECYCLING RATE INCREASE – MAY 1, 2020

Beginning May 1, 2020, rates for residential refuse and recycling collection will increase by two percent, which is the consumer price index. Rates are increasing as part of the contract with Prairieland Disposal. Please see the chart for a current rate and new rate comparison.

	Current Rate	Rate as of May 1
Single-Family	$17.14	$17.48
Senior Rate	$15.43	$15.74
Multi-Family	$13.71	$13.98

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED: 2020 CENSUS

What matters to you? Schools? Transportation? Hospitals? Data from the U.S. Census Bureau help inform planning efforts for all these important community resources. To learn how census data impact you and your community, visit www.2020census.gov. #2020Census.

Residents should have received information from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding completing the 2020 Census online. Completing the information only takes a few minutes, and benefits the Crystal Lake community. You can also complete the Census via mail or by calling 844-330-2020. The City of Crystal Lake encourages residents to stand up and be counted!

TROLLEY TOUR 2020 CANCELLATION

The Crystal Lake Historic Preservation Commission understands that these are unprecedented times and everyone's health and safety are of the utmost importance. It is with this in mind that we feel it is prudent to cancel the 2020 Trolley Tour. The Commission will still be working hard to research homes, assist residents with plaquing historic homes, and continue their mission of education. We fully anticipate the trolley tour to be back next year. Stay well.

MOSQUITO ABATEMENT PROGRAM

The City of Crystal Lake partners with Clarke Environmental for mosquito abatement services. This program monitors potential mosquito breeding sites in the Crystal Lake area and administers pre-hatch larvacide treatments.

The mosquito abatement program also involves:

- monitoring mosquito trap counts located throughout the City of Crystal Lake;
- conducting community-wide mosquito spraying when trap count levels are too high;
- conducting localized mosquito spraying before or during the Lakeside Festival; and
- posting mosquito information on newsletters, press releases, and social media.

As in past years, in addition to monitoring efforts, the program focuses on decreasing annoyance levels and the risk of transmittal of the West Nile Virus.

Fighting mosquito bites reduces your risk of getting West Nile Virus, along with other diseases that mosquitoes carry.

Residents who wish to report potential mosquito breeding areas, above normal mosquito levels, or standing water should go to Clarke Environmental's online portal, www.clarkeportal.com/hotline. From there residents should click the "Resident Hotline" button to enter information. Pre-application notification of City-wide night spray mosquito control services will continue to be notified via text and/or email.

For more information regarding West Nile Virus visit:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/index.htm

Illinois Department of Public Health
www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/wnv.htm

Clarke Environmental
www.clarke.com/



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

NEW BUSINESSES AND DEVELOPMENTS

Grayscale

89 N Williams Street

A new furniture store in downtown Crystal Lake features a wide selection of modernized heirloom furniture.

Senior Residences

355 Station Drive

The Residences of Crystal Lake is a new 60-unit affordable senior-based housing development featuring 1 and 2 bedroom units with a theater, card room, game room, community area, library and café.



25th Business Anniversary

Clothes Gallery

51 N Williams Street

Located in the historic downtown district, it's your neighborhood destination for the latest in women's fashion and accessories.



SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES

Crystal Lake businesses appreciate your support - follow I Shop Crystal Lake on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter @ishopcl for updates from our businesses!

Do you own a business?

- The City of Crystal Lake would love to support you and your business by sharing your updates through the "I Shop Crystal Lake" program. This program is a social media based campaign with an audience of over 5,800 people. Send us content by emailing ishopcl@crystallake.org or by tagging us in your posts!
- Emergency Business Assistance is Available! Visit the City's Business Assistance webpage for more information about current programs available.



READY FOR TODAY, PREPARING FOR TOMORROW

EMS STRONG

May 17-23, 2020, is the 46th Annual National EMS Week.

President Gerald Ford authorized EMS Week in 1974 as an opportunity to celebrate EMS practitioners and the important work they do in the many communities throughout our Nation.

In Crystal Lake, each firefighter is also a paramedic. This means that in addition to fighting fires, citizens can be assured that each member of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department is ready and prepared to respond to any emergency at any time.

EMS Week allows communities and medical personnel to honor the dedication of those who provide the day-to-day lifesaving services of medicine's "front line." Given the current pandemic of COVID-19, EMS Week is an especially perfect time to recognize EMS and all that its practitioners do for our nation each and every day.

Sources: www.naemt.org and www.emsstrong.org

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR

Aaron T. Shepley

COUNCILMEMBER

Ellen Brady
Cathy A. Ferguson
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Haig Haleblian
Ian Philpot

City Clerk

Nick Kachiroubas

City Manager

Gary J. Mayerhofer

Police/Fire/Ambulance
Emergency Only
911

All Other Departments
(Non-Emergency)
815-459-2020
www.crystallake.org

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Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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Visit www.crystallake.org/your-government/communications/enews-sign-up

to receive the newsletter by e-mail only.

WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

The City of Crystal Lake values the opinion of its residents. If you have any concerns or comments about the City Letter, please express them in the space provided below. (If you need more space, please attach a separate piece of paper). Clip this and mail to: City Letter, City of Crystal Lake, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. Questions or comments can also be sent to comments@crystallake.org.