City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



The Johnny Appleseed Festival: Bushels of Fun for Everyone!

The Downtown Crystal Lake Organization is planting the seed for the 29th annual Johnny Appleseed Festival on Saturday, September 24, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Historic Downtown Crystal Lake. The Downtown Crystal Lake/Main Street organization hosts this exciting fall event along with it's sponsor Home State Bank.

Experience and celebrate the sights and sounds ushering in the fall season during the festival. Enjoy wagon rides, a petting zoo, inflatables, and a pumpkin train. There are lots of children's games and activities, including pumpkin bowling. Also, visit a balloon sculpting artist, hand and airbrush face painters, and local dance studios performing. Don't forget to visit the craft fair, featuring dozens of the area's best artisans.

Meet and see Johnny Appleseed, Crystal Lake Fire Department firetrucks, and Crystal Lake Police Department vehicles.

The downtown stores will be open for your shopping pleasure, and the Farmers Market will be open with all of your fall favorites. Enjoy refreshments, snacks, or lunch while listening to live music.

At 3 p.m., join the excitement of the Great Ball Race on Brink Street, as hundreds of numbered balls race down the street, with the fastest ball winning $1,000 for its owner! Tickets will be available for sale at the Johnny Appleseed Festival and on the Downtown Crystal Lake website.

The Johnny Appleseed Festival is an excellent volunteer opportunity for students and adults looking for a way to give back to their Downtown Crystal Lake community. Volunteer opportunities can be found at www.DowntownCL.org or 815.479.0835.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Remember September 11, 2001



September 11th is a day that will forever evoke memories of an unimaginable event. Thousands of civilians and first responders lost their lives to this act of terror. We hold all victims of this tragedy close to our hearts as we come together as a nation to display unity and bravery.

Child Passenger Safety Week



When it comes to child safety, it is better to be safe than sorry. Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week highlights the importance of ensuring that all children are correctly secured with an appropriate car seat or seatbelt. A child's age, weight, and height can all play a factor when determining proper safety harnesses, so it's essential to keep up-to-date with all current regulations and suggestions. September 19-25 is dedicated to all things child passenger safety.

Contact the City of Crystal Lake Police Department at (815) 356-3620 if you need your car seat inspected.

Rail Safety Week

Since 2017, Rail Safety Week has saved lives by educating and empowering the public to make safe decisions around trains and tracks by raising awareness of the need for rail safety education. Here are 7 Steps for Navigating Freight and Commuter Train Crossings:

1. Stop, look both ways, and listen. Remember that trains always have the right of way.

2. Make sure you have room to get across. Once you enter the crossing, keep moving.

3. Stop 15 feet away from flashing red lights, lowered gates, a signaling flagman or a stop sign.

4. Never try to drive around a lowering gate. Never ignore signals, and always use caution.

5. Before you begin to cross, wait for gates to fully rise and for all lights to stop flashing.

6. Never assume that there is only one train coming from a single direction.

7. If your car stalls on a rail track, quickly get everyone out – even if you don't see a train coming.

Follow our Facebook!

Scan this QR code with your phone's camera and follow City of Crystal Lake Police Department to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

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

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

September Is National Preparedness Month



Disasters can strike at any time without warning. It's essential to have an "Emergency Preparedness Plan" in place for you and your family. These plans should be updated and reviewed annually to ensure you know what to do and to guarantee preparedness.

An important part of any Emergency Preparedness Plan is a "Preparedness Kit". Some items to have in your kit include enough water to provide one gallon per person for several days; this water will be used for drinking and sanitation, enough non-perishable food to last several days, a battery powered or hand-crank radio, a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert, extra batteries, a first aid kit, and a whistle to be used for signaling help. For more help on how to make a plan and build a preparedness kit, visit www.ready.gov.

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Open House



Save the date!
When: Saturday, October 8, 2022 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Where: 100 W. Woodstock St. (Station 1)

We invite all ages to the fire station for a free day of fun and learning! Actives that will be taking place during the Open House are listed below:

- Fire Safety Demonstrations
- Blood Pressure Checks
- Interactive Safety Stations
- Apparatus Display
- Snacks, games & more!

While attending the Fire Rescue Open House, help fill the truck with donations for the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. A list of items that are most needed and information on what cannot be accepted by the Crystal Lake Food Pantry can be found in the link below: www.clfoodpantry.org.

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
(815) 356-3640

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

September Hours Of Operation

September 3 – 5 (Labor Day Weekend)
Swim Beach: 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Marina: 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

September 6 – 30
Swim Beach: Closed For The Season
Marina: Open Weekends Only*

The beach will close for the season on Monday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. The Three Oaks Recreation Area will remain open from 6:30 a.m. to sunset. This includes all trails, fishing, and other activities not at the beach area.

*Please check the City of Crystal Lake website for the most up-to-date hours. A link to the website can be found on the bottom of this page.

Guest Photos



Photo Credit: Paul McPherson



Photo Credit: Michael Odonnell



Photo Credit: Pooja Jaiswal



Photo Credit: Jeff Henderson



Photo Credit: Nick Hammonds



Photo Credit: Alexandra Burke

5517 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
www.crystallake.org/threeoaksrecreation
Email: threeoaks@crystallake.org
Information Line: (815) 356-2447
Rainout Line: (815) 506-9333

Follow the City of Crystal Lake and Three Oaks on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

S.O.S. – Save Our Stones

DIANA KENNEY

Members of the Crystal Lake Historic Preservation Commission and Crystal Lake Historical Society have embarked on a project to clean and repair the headstones at the Crystal Lake Cemetery on Lake Avenue. Using approved cleaning products, methods, and a little elbow grease, members are bringing these stone monuments back to life. The cemetery's owner, Algonquin Township, is also a partner, playing a key role in the restoration of this historic cemetery.

The Crystal Lake Cemetery is the oldest public burial ground in Crystal Lake and Algonquin Township. Since it was established in 1840, nearly 1,200 burials have taken place at the cemetery, with about 450 of these being children. Additionally, 54 veterans are buried at the Crystal Lake Cemetery, broken down as follows: 1-Patriot's War, 6-War of 1812, 45-Civil War, 2-WW1.

On August 15, 2000, the Crystal Lake City Council voted unanimously to approve Algonquin Township's application for Landmark Designation of the cemetery. The Landmark Designation bestows legal protection to the property for the purpose of preserving its public character and history. The City's Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) provides the necessary oversight. For additional information on the City's landmark program, contact Liz Maxwell at: emaxwell@crystallake.org.

Any changes to a landmarked property require submittal and approval by the HPC of a Certificate of Appropriateness. This oversight is necessary, as well-intentioned cleanings or repairs to headstones can actually cause more harm than good. Repairs and maintenance to non-historic elements of the cemetery (such as the gate, fence, pillar, sign, grass, trees, shrubs, etc.) do not require a Certificate of Appropriateness.

As the cemetery owner, Algonquin Township is responsible for the repairs and maintenance items listed above.



In front of the renovated entrance: Randy Funk & Kelli Freeman (Algonquin Township); Diana Kenney, Lisa Solak, Brittany Niequist (HPC); Mitchell Hopkins, Brett Hopkins (Eagle Scout & Dad)

In July 2022, Algonquin Township completed a beautiful facelift to the cemetery's front entrance. The pillars flanking the main gate and marking the front boundaries of the cemetery have been repaired and re-faced with cut stone. Additionally, new landmark plaques have been installed. These plaques provide information on the history and significance of the historic cemetery.

Beginning in 2020 and under the guidance of the HPC, Eagle Scout candidate, Mitchell Hopkins, trained and led a team of volunteers to clean several veterans' headstones at the Crystal Lake Cemetery. This effort continues with the help of HPC members and volunteers. Unfortunately, many of the tombstones are broken, fallen, or unstable and cannot safely be cleaned until they are repaired.



An example of a "before & after" cleaning.

The S.O.S. (Save Our Stones) fund was established by the Crystal Lake Historical Society to raise the necessary funds to repair the historic headstones of Crystal Lake Cemetery. The first priority for the use of the funds will be repairing the headstones of veterans buried at the cemetery.

For additional information or to donate to the S.O.S. project, visit the Crystal Lake Historical Society's website: www.cl-hs.org. Donations are tax-deductible.

About the Author: Diana Kenney is an appointed member of the City of Crystal Lake's Historic Preservation Commission, and President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society. To contact Diana email info@cl-hs.org.

Curbside Electronics Collection Event: Week of September 12-16

LRS will be conducting curbside electronics collection during the week of September 12-16, 2022. Residents may set out a maximum of five electronic items, including a limit of one TV or one computer monitor.

The electronics will be collected on all resident's regularly scheduled collection day. LRS will conduct the next electronics collection week in March 2023. The following table details which items may and may not be set out for electronics collection:

Accepted Electronics Items	Items NOT Accepted
One Television or One Computer Monitor	Air Conditioners
Cell Phones, Telephones and Tablets	Appliances
Cameras	Batteries
CD Players	Battery Operated Children's Toys
Computer Drives	Coffee Makers
Cords and Cables	Computer Disks
Electronics Mice and Keyboards	Dishwashers
Fax Machines and Printers	Hair Dryers and Hair Irons
Holiday Lights	Humidifiers
Modems	Liquid or Chemical Waste
Paper Shredders	Microwave Ovens
Satellite Receivers	Packaging Materials
Scanners	Refrigerators
Stereos	Smoke and Fire Detectors
Video Game Consoles	Water Softeners

Please contact LRS at (847) 381-9300 with any questions regarding the electronics collection event.

Green Business Designation Program

The Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee is now accepting applications from local businesses for the 2022-23 Green Business Designation program. This program has been created to recognize businesses engaging in environmentally friendly practices. There are six areas of achievement listed below, and applicants are not obligated to fill out all six of the categories.

1. Water quality and conservation
2. Energy conservation
3. Promoting healthy ecosystems
4. Handling of waste
5. Maintaining or improving air quality
6. Education of employees about green initiatives

Crystal Lake businesses are invited to complete an application for the program. Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2023. Please visit the City's Sustainability Committee web page at www.crystallake.org to access the application link. Please contact Assistant City Manager Nick HammondsNick Hammonds by phone at (815) 356-3675 or by email at nhammonds@crystallake.org with any questions.

Brush Drop-Off Site

The City's Brush Drop-Off Site, located at 410 S. Main Street, is open on the first and third Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., April through November. Proof of residency, such as a driver's license or vehicle sticker, is required to drop off brush at the site. To be accepted, all brush must be six inches or less in diameter and six feet or less in length.

Other materials, such as bagged leaves and grass, cannot be accepted at the site. These items can be disposed of on normal garbage collection days when placed inside disposal bags and containers not weighing more than fifty pounds per bag or container.

Remaining Brush Drop-Off Dates
September 3, 2022
September 17, 2022
October 1, 2022
October 15, 2022
November 1, 2022

Electrical Aggregation

The City's residential electrical aggregation program will expire on September 30, 2022. Residents who are participating in the electric aggregation program will be switched to ComEd for electric supply beginning on October 1, 2022. The ending of the program will not negatively impact electrical rates. This change will not affect residents who have chosen their own supplier for electricity. If you have any questions, please contact Assistant City Manager Nick Hammonds at (815) 356-3675.

The Quarry Corner: September

Prost! September means Oktoberfest at the Quarry! Visit the Quarry for two days of live German music performed by the band Die Musikmeisters, themed Bar & Grille items like pretzels, schnitzel, and seasonal beers, festive décor, and fall mini-market vendors. This event is open to all ages and free to those under eighteen years of age. What better way to enjoy the last summer weekend than at this fun Quarry event?



If you are a fan of our themed events, consider hosting a themed event of your own! New for 2023, the Quarry will be booking private event space during and after some of the Quarrys' most significant holiday events, such as Galentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Derby Day, Cinco de Mayo, and more. Host your event with the provided decor and make your shower or gathering with friends extra festive. To inquire about private events, please complete an event request on the Quarry website or email events@thequarrycablepark.com.

And don't forget to come and enjoy the final month of riding on the lake! The wakeboard cables will run all September long. You can find September hours and riding information on The Quarry Cable Park website at www.thequarrycablepark.com/.

Businesses Coming Soon!

Crumbl Cookies-5500 Northwest Highway
The cookie craze is coming to Crystal Lake! Crumbl Cookies features CD-sized cookies and a rotating menu of unique and trendy flavors. Some cookies are served warm, like the classic milk chocolate chip, while others like the banana cream pie cookie, are served chilled and topped with banana pudding and a wafer. If you enjoy your cake-to-frosting ratio heavier on the frosting side, you will surely fall in love with this new cookie shop.

Guzman Y Gomez-5459 Northwest Highway
Opening its second U.S. location, Guzman Y Gomez is a new fast-casual restaurant featuring urban Mexican flavors using fresh ingredients. The restaurant will be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, serving frozen margaritas and Mexican beer alongside tacos, burritos, and fries.

CALENDAR | September 2022

All events at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street

Monday, September 5
City Hall offices Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 7
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

September 12-16
Curbside Electronics Collection

Tuesday, September 20
City Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 24
Johnny Appleseed Festival, beginning 9:00 a.m. (Downtown Crystal Lake)

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR

Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBER

Ellen Brady

Cathy A. Ferguson

Brett Hopkins

Cameron Hubbard

Mandy Montford

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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City of Crystal Lake
100 W. Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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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 www.crystallake.org.