City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



Photo Credit: Ericka Shay

Spring Building Permits Reminder

The City has information for most residential projects that require a Building Permit available online at the following address: https://bit.ly/3XAV8SK.

For structures such as patios, gazebos, decks, and screen-porch additions, a plat of survey indicating the location of the proposed structure and building plans are needed.

For manufactured equipment such as swimming pools, hot tubs, generators, air conditioners, or factory-built fireplaces, please submit a brochure with the product specifications and a plat of survey indicating the location of proposed equipment. Please Call the Crystal Lake Community Development Department at (815) 356-3605 with any questions.

Building permit applications can be applied for online by using the City's online permitting system "EZ APP" under Permits. Permits can also be applied for in person at the Community Development Counter of City Hall.

When submitting for a permit, please submit all of the requested documents and dimensions to show the complete scope of work being performed (project location, building materials, manufacturer's specifications, etc.).

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Three Oaks Recreation Area FAQs Page 3

"Who Remembers Harry Glick" Page 5

Electronics Collection Page 11

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Citizen Survey

The Crystal Lake Police Department is conducting a citizen survey to collect citizens input about crime, police services, and how the City can best serve the community's needs. Residents can complete the citizen survey via a link on the City's website home page, the below QR code, or by grabbing a hard copy in our lobby located at 100 W. Woodstock Street, Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. The survey ends May 31, 2023, allowing residents to provide input and suggestions regarding police services. Surveys are a valuable tool for the Police Department; giving feedback helps improve police services provided to our residents.

Coffee With the Chief

On March 14, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Crystal Lake Police Department will host Coffee with the Chief. The featured topic for this event will be Cyber Security and Cyber Sexting Awareness for Juveniles. This event will be held at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street. Coffee and light snacks will be provided. You will also have the opportunity for Q & A with Chief Black. To RSVP for this event, please contact Officer Alfano via email at salfano@crystallake.org or by calling (815)444-5956.



St. Patrick's Day Safety - Don't Rely on Luck

In celebration of St. Patrick's Day, one of the top 10 drinking days in the calendar year, the Crystal Lake Police Department encourages everyone to celebrate safely. Please designate a sober driver, or use a paid mode of transportation.

Additional Crystal Lake Officers will participate in a statewide campaign for traffic and DUI enforcement during the St. Patrick's Day weekend.

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

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

Follow The CLPD on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

Scan the QR Code on the right to access the CLPD Facebook page

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Employment Opportunities

Lifeguards
Lifeguards must obtain Red Cross certification prior to the beginning of the season. However, potential applicants can apply before receiving certification.



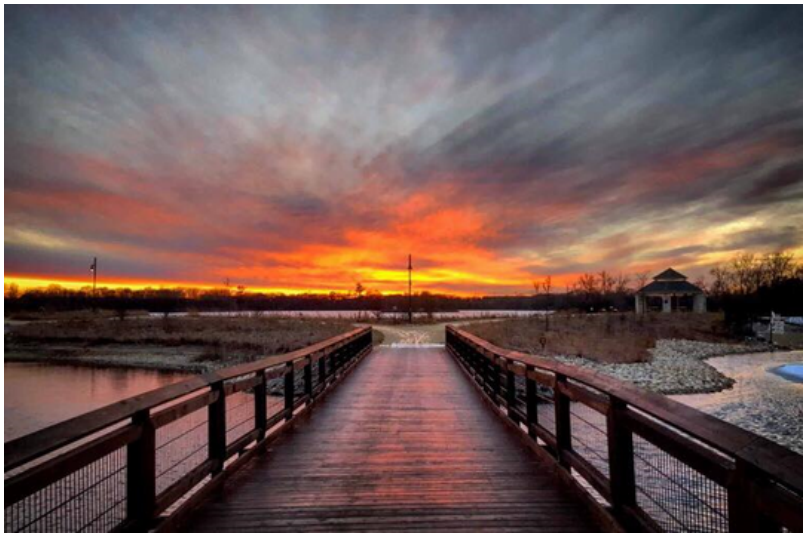
Attendants
This is a seasonal position. Applicants are responsible for assisting patrons at the park through duties at the parking gate and swim beach, supporting the scuba zone operations, and all boat rental aspects in the marina. Applicants must be at least 16 years of age at the time of hire.

Applicants interested in any position can visit the Human Resources page on the City's website to submit an application.

Opening Dates

Marina
The Marina will tentatively open for the season on Saturday, April 15, 2023.

- The Marina will be open on **weekends only** in April.
- Only row boats will be available in April due to the cold weather. Our entire fleet of boats will be available at the Marina building in May.



Swim Beach
The Swim Beach will tentatively open for the season on Saturday, May 27, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Scuba Zone
The Scuba Zone will tentatively open in May, weather permitting.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Open Water Swim?
Open Water Swim is described as distance swimming beyond the boundaries of the beach's buoy markers only on select dates. Open Water Swim will take place on Saturdays in the months of June and July. More information on dates and times will be available on our website under the Open Water Swim tab.

Continued on Page 4

Can I bring my own kayak or canoe?
No, outside watercrafts are not allowed as to protect against any invasive species. The park is a former quarry, so the water is beautifully clear and easy to view fish. We would like to maintain the cleanliness of the water for all future guests to enjoy.

Can I bring my dog to Three Oaks?
Yes! Dogs are welcome on our walking trails while leashed. However, dogs are not allowed at the beach, in our watercrafts, or in the water anywhere off of the trails For your convenience, dog litter stations are available at the head of each walking trail.



Photo Credits:
Alexandra Burke



Photo Credits:
Sue Wright

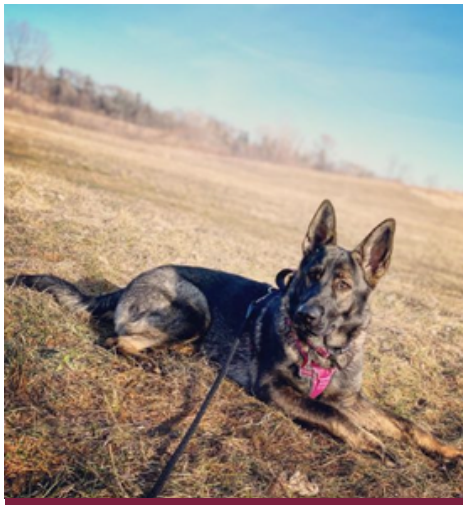


Photo Credits:
Luis Mendoza Lara



Photo Credits:
Sam Baker

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

Memorial Day Parade and Cemetery Service

The City of Crystal Lake Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 29, 2023.

The parade begins at 11:00 a.m. at Central High School and runs east on Franklin Avenue, north on Williams Street, and west on Woodstock Street to Union Cemetery, where a Memorial Service is held.

Applications for this year's parade can be found online at https://bit.ly/3xoTQ2z. For all questions, please contact the City at (815) 459-2020.

As a reminder, the Memorial Day Parade and Cemetery Service is a solemn event intended to honor veterans and those who have given their lives for their country. candy or fliers promoting your organization cannot be distributed during the parade and please keep marching units and floats consistent with the nature of this event.



WHO REMEMBERS HARRY GLICK?

DIANA KENNEY

If you attended Crystal Lake Community High School in the early 1960s, you may already be laughing at my reference to Harry Glick. What a guy! Or was he?

Harry Glick was born the first week of school in the Fall of 1961 when seniors Roger Schneider and Craig Brown were in study hall. The teacher in charge passed out sheets of paper instructing students to sign their name next to their seat number. The mischievous duo of Schneider and Brown signed the name “Harry Glick” by one of the seat numbers, and a new student was born!

Harry Glick soon took on a life of his own. It was decided Harry should have a library card. According to Schneider, “We talked a freshman into going to the library, posing as Harry Glick, and telling the librarian that he had been absent the day the cards were distributed. Since a schedule card for Harry was needed before the library card would be issued, I made one. My freshman year schedule was cleaned up and Harry’s schedule was added. From there the card was dunked in the sink to blur the writing and to wrinkle the card.” Our “Harry” went to the library, produced his sodden schedule and told a story about falling into the lake with his wallet. The librarian laughed at his story and issued the card.

With a library card and schedule, Harry Glick managed to obtain a student I.D. card, join several clubs and organizations, and become an accepted member of the student body. The high school faculty eventually caught on to the prank and decided to join in the fun.

GLICK, HARRY — Orange and Black 4; Science Club 4; Honor Society 4; Varsity Club 4; Band 4; Football 4; Basketball 4; Track 4; Research Project 4; German Club 4; South Elgin, Illinois 1,2,3.

1962 CLCHS Yearbook - Senior Activities Page

A birthday party was held for Harry in the school cafeteria. Students and faculty enjoyed a feast of cake and ice cream. Unfortunately, Harry himself could not attend. But Mr. Buckner, Mr. Whitt and other faculty members were there!



Mr. Buckner, Craig Wayland Brown, Roger Schneider, Tom Shalin, Mr. Whitt, and Mr. Wagner celebrate Harry's birthday.

1962 CLCHS Yearbook – Student of the Year Page

Toward the end of the school year, Schneider and Brown were called to Mr. Buckner’s office and were told the Harry Glick thing was getting out of hand, and they needed to put it to rest. Naturally, the duo organized a funeral for poor Harry. Someone had arranged with Mr. Tarplay to borrow the casket from the Thespians’ prop room. The casket was carried around the cafeteria for Harry’s funeral. Students wore black armbands.

Although Harry Glick had now officially died, the Harry Glick Orchestra made an appearance in the Senior Prom Program. The 1962 yearbook names him “Student of the Year” and lists many of his accomplishments and activities. And, it was recalled, Mr. Buckner started his commencement address with, “Parents, students, and friends of Harry Glick…”

Yep, the memory of Harry Glick lives on!

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.

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Poison Prevention Week

March 21-25 is Poison Prevention Week. With Spring upon us, you may have more chemicals in reach in your household. Below are some tips to prevent any accidents:

- Read and follow directions on product labels for cleaning chemicals
- Turn on fans and open windows to move air.
- Oven cleaners, drain openers, toilet bowl cleaners, and rust removers are among the most dangerous products found in homes. These caustics burn on skin or eye contact. Always keep them out of reach of children.
- Never mix cleaning products unless the label directs you to, as toxic gases may form. Never mix bleach with a cleaner that contains ammonia (generates chloramine gas) or a cleaner that contains an acid (generates chlorine gas).
- Store products in their original containers. Transferring cleaners, such as pesticides or auto fluids, to food or soda containers, has caused some of the most serious poisonings in unsuspecting victims.
- Put chemicals away immediately after use. Make sure caps are tightly sealed and spray bottles are in a locked position. Use child-proof locks on cabinets/closets where chemicals are stored.

POISON Help 1-800-222-1222

Spring Cleaning? Don't Forget Your Dryer Vents!

Did you know you are at higher risk of having a clothes dryer fire if you do not clean your lint filter and dryer vents? Below are some safety tips to help prevent a clothes dryer fire in your home:

- Have your dryer serviced/installed by a professional.
- Do not use the dryer without a lint filter, and be sure to clean the lint filter before and after each cycle.
- Don't forget to clean the back of the dryer where lint can build up.
- Check the venting system behind the dryer to make sure it is not crushed, damaged, or restricted.
- Make sure the outdoor vent covering is open when the dryer is operating.

Sharps Disposal in Illinois

Looking to dispose of used medical sharps? The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recommends placing used needles and other sharps immediately into FDA-cleared sharps containers. These containers are typically available through pharmacies, medical supply companies, and online.

If you cannot use an FDA-cleared sharps container, you may use a strong, re-sealable plastic container such as a laundry detergent bottle. (Soda bottles, water bottles, milk cartons, etc., are NOT strong plastics for sharps disposal.)

Once the container is ¾ full, seal the lid firmly with duct tape, label it "DO NOT RECYCLE" and place it in the household trash.



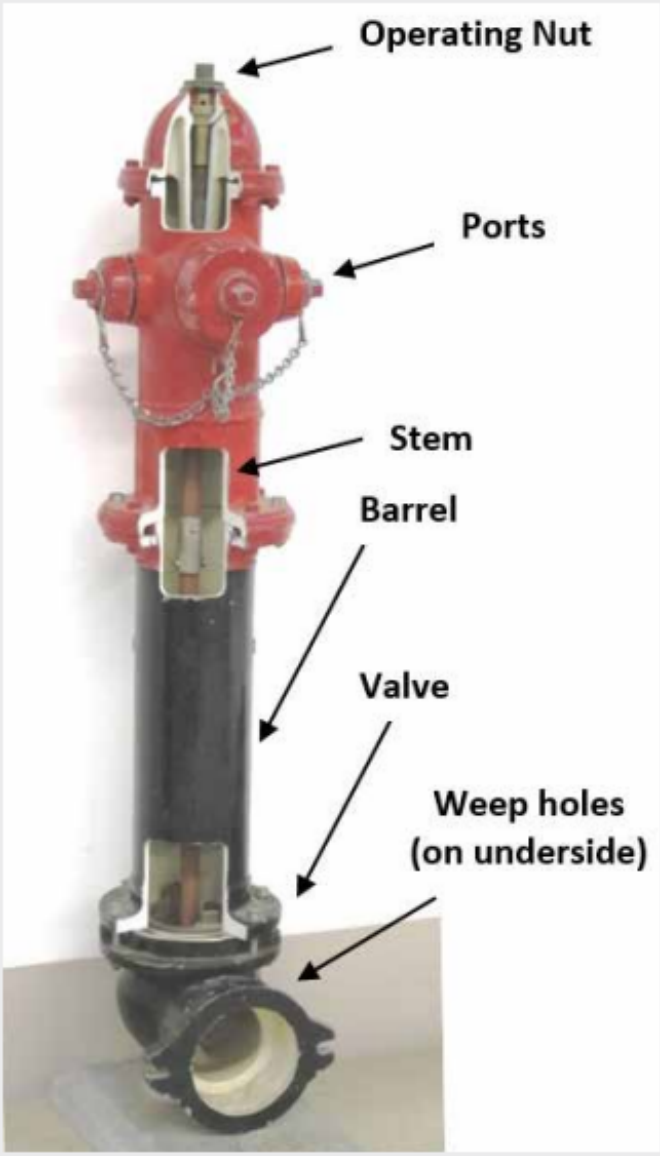
City of Crystal Lake Fire Hydrant Flushing Q&A

How many fire hydrants are in the City of Crystal Lake?
There are over 3,000 fire hydrants in the City of Crystal Lake and the Water & Sewer Division flushes out each of these hydrants and the attached underground pipes annually during the Spring.

Why are hydrants flushed annually, isn't it wasting water?
There are two main reasons fire hydrants are flushed annually. First, flushing ensures hydrants are operating properly and guarantees there is sufficient water flow and pressure for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department if needed. The second reason is to flush naturally occurring sediment out of the underground pipes connected to the fire hydrant.

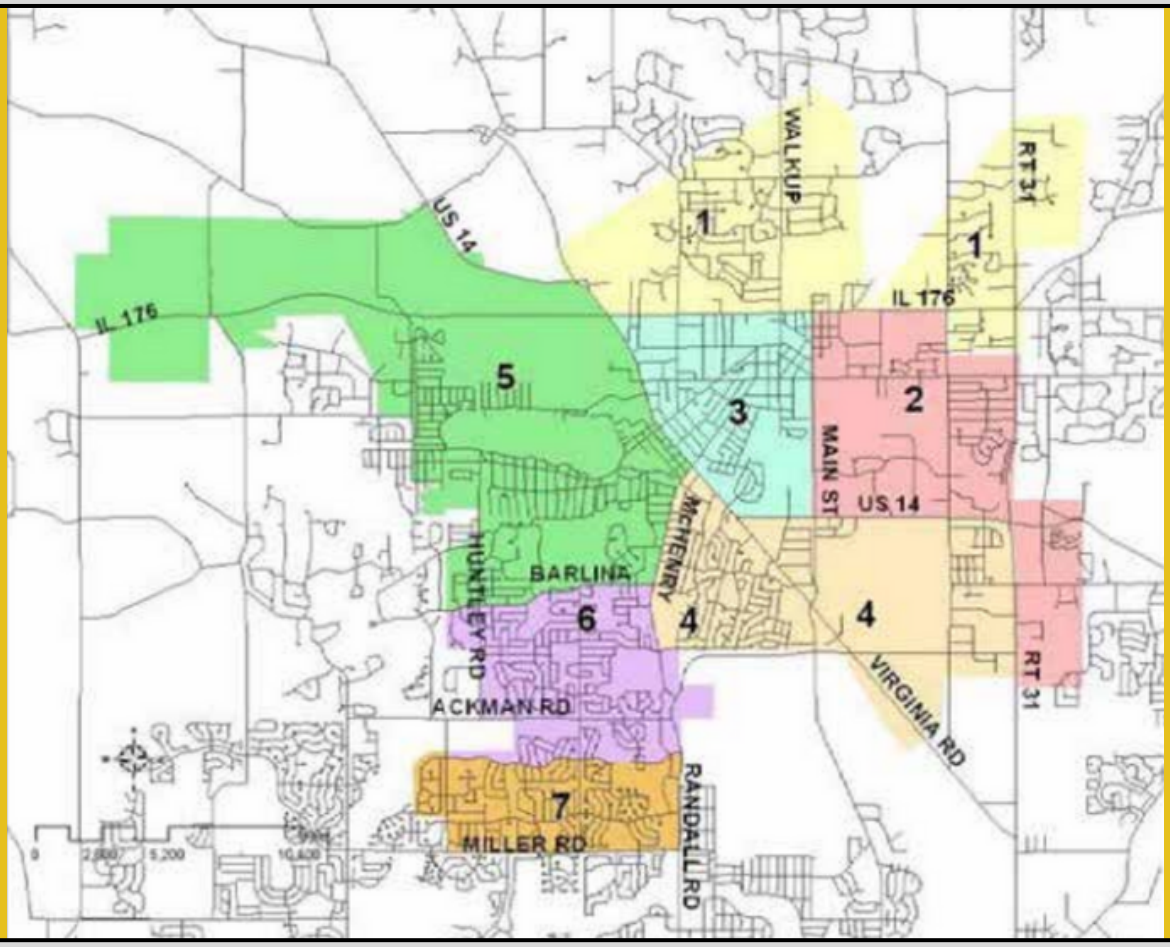
How does The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department use a hydrant to fight a fire?
Water comes out of fire hydrants at the same pressure you experience in your home. However, firefighters require adequate pressure and high volume to fight fires. In order to have enough volume, the firefighters will open the large cover and connect a 4-1/2 or 5-inch hose from the hydrant to their fire engine. The fire engine contains a pump increasing the pressure of the water. The firefighters then connect smaller hoses to the engine which are used to actually fight a fire.

During hydrant flushing will I see any changes to my water service?
During flushing, water may become temporarily discolored due to material being removed from water mains. The water is safe to drink, but may stain clothes that are washed during the flushing. Please limit laundry cleaning during this time, but if this is not possible, the City offers Rover, a chemical that can be used as a cleanser in laundry to remove iron stains, free of charge.



If a car was to strike a hydrant, would the water really "gush out" like it does in the movies?
Normally, no. As long as a hydrant is off, water should not "gush out" if struck. All the fire hydrants you see around the City are "dry barrel hydrants" which means there is no water sitting in the upper portion of the hydrant when it is turned off. The valve controlling the flow of water is actually below ground and there is a long stem connecting the valve to the operating nut. Near the base of that valve are weep holes. When the operating nut is used to turn the hydrant off, it opens those weep holes and allows the water to drain out of the hydrant and the stem. Incidentally, this is also a very important mechanism to avoid water freezing in the hydrant during the colder months.

To stay up to date on all Public Works projects, including road repairs, please visit the Crystal Lake City Website and look under the "Construction Projects" section.



Spring 2023 Full System Hydrant Flushing

Section 1: March 20th – March 24th
North of Route 176 and east of Route 14 east of Terra Cotta Road and north of Crystal Lake Avenue.

Section 2: March 27th – March 31st
South of Route 176 to Route 14 east of Main Street to Route 31 (south of Crystal Lake Avenue) east of Route 31 and south of Route 14 to WalMart.

Section 3: April 3rd – April 7th
South of Route 176 to Route 14 east of Route 14 to Main Street.

Section 4: April 10th – April 14th
South of Route 14, east of McHenry Avenue to Route 31.

Section 5: April 17th – April 21st
West of Route 14 & McHenry Avenue north of Barlina Road.

Section 6: April 24th – April 28th
South of Barlina to Alexandra boulevard west of McHenry Avenue and west of Randall Road.

Section 7: May 1st – May 5th
South of Alexandra Boulevard to Miller Road west of Randall Road.

Have questions about Hydrant flushing?

City staff are available between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to answer all questions. Please call the Crystal Lake Public Works Department at:
(815) 356-3614

New Businesses

Crumbl Cookies- 5500 Northwest Highway, Unit C

Wingstop- 5005 Northwest Highway, Unit 102

The Learning Hills of Crystal Lake Daycare- 290 Memorial Court

Banfield Pet Hospital- 6340 Northwest Highway

What Items Can or Cannot be Recycled?

There are many misconceptions around what items can or cannot be recycled. In addition to the following list, the McHenry County College offers resources for proper recycling in their annual Green Guide available at www.McHenry.edu.

The following items can be recycled in your curbside recycling bin:

- Cardboard, newspapers, magazines, and paper products.
- Aluminum, tin, steel, and bi-metal beverage and food cans.
- Plastics: please check the numbering on the plastic item to confirm if it is recyclable. Plastics numbered 1 and 2 are the most viable plastics for recycling.

The following items cannot be recycled in your curbside recycling bin:

- Pizza boxes or any items with food waste or grease.
- Styrofoam and boxes with Styrofoam glued to the box.
- Electronic items, including TVs, monitors, cell phones, batteries, or appliances.
- Straws, plastic lids, bubble wrap, utensils, or foam containers.
- Personal Protective Equipment: Masks, gloves, or paper towels.

Resources are available to recycle many items that cannot be placed in your curbside recycling bin, including:

- Styrofoam: The Environmental Defenders of McHenry County can direct you to the location of a Styrofoam recycling center. Please visit http://mcdef.org or call (815) 338-0393.
- Appliances and Electronics: LRS offers two collection events each year. The Chamber of Commerce also offers a Community Clean Up Day, drop off event in April.
- Please contact your local Township for more recycling services, including: Paint drop-off, battery drop-off, electronics drop-off, motor oil and tires.

Does LRS offer composting?

LRS offers multiple options for composting. Residents can purchase a composting bin to collect and dispose of food scraps with their regular yard waste collection. Please contact LRS at (844) 633-3577 to request a compost bin or to receive additional information regarding composting options.

When does yard waste collection begin?

Yard waste collection begins on April 1st each year. Yard waste will be collected until the second full week of December

How should I dispose of plastic bags?

Plastic bags from grocery and retail stores are not allowed to be included with residential recycling. Although it is common to use plastic bags to bundle recyclable material, the bags are not recyclable even if there are recyclable materials inside the bags. There are two options for residents to dispose of accumulated plastic bags from grocery and retail stores:

1. Jewel-Osco and Walmart will accept returned plastic bags that are not contaminated, or;
2. Place any plastic bags from grocery and retail stores in your garbage container for collection.

State of the Community

Good Things are Happening in the City of Crystal Lake!

A video highlighting accomplishments from the last year and providing an overview of projects and developments planned for 2023 can be seen on the City website.

The video, which debuted at the State of the Community event, features businesses, the City, School Districts 47 and 155, the Crystal Lake Park District, and McHenry County College.



Access to the State of the Community video can be found on the City's website in the Link and Resources section of the City Council Page: https://bit.ly/3YRWJ87.

Sanitary Sewer Backup Information

Below are important steps to remember when experiencing a sewer backup:

1. Stop using water! This contributes to the backup. Don't run any water down your drains until the blockage has been cleared.
2. Before calling a plumber, call the City of Crystal Lake Public Works Department (815) 356-3614 (24/7) to inspect the City's main sewer line. There is no charge to you for having City crews come out.
3. Quickly close all drain openings with stoppers or plugs. Tub, sink, and floor drain plugs may need additional weight to keep them sealed. A string mop can be used to help plug toilet openings.

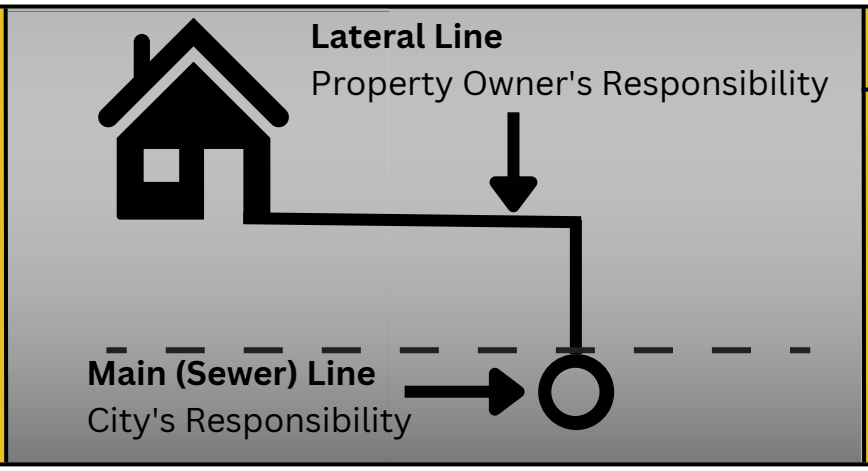
Why do I call the City before I call a plumber?

The City maintains the main sewer lines. If the backup is in the City's lines, City crews will resolve the issue. This saves you the expense of having a plumber come out for a blockage they couldn't have cleared. If the City's inspection of the main line shows it's clear, you'll then call a plumber, as the problem is in your lateral service line.

How can sewer backups be prevented?

The City inspects and cleans the sanitary sewer mains throughout the City. Homeowners can help prevent backups by NEVER flushing diapers, sanitary napkins, paper towels, rags, or grease down the toilet or drain. Tree roots may invade your lateral line. Homeowners can hire a plumbing company to preventatively remove tree roots.





What portion of the sewer lines is the homeowner's responsibility?

Homeowners are responsible for the lateral line, which is the portion of the sewer line that services your home. Please see the diagram on the left for clarification.

The Quarry Corner: March

Celebrate with a view at The Quarry year-round! The lakeside, loft, walk-out, and patio tent spaces offer a unique backdrop for your next celebration or corporate event. The Quarry offers the perfect location to customize your ideal special event. Dates are filling up for the 2023 season, so book your private event NOW!

All indoor rooms have open-air capabilities along with stunning lakeside views and amenities. With a full buyout capacity of over 500 guests and an intimate space available fireside, there is no event too big or small that the Quarry Cable Park events team cannot help you customize. Whether a social event such as a birthday party or bridal shower, a corporate event such as a meeting or team building retreat, or a fundraiser to help support a local cause, the Quarry loves seeing our community celebrate their special events at the Quarry.

The Quarry looks forward to welcoming you and your guests at your next event. If you are interested in hosting a private at the Quarry in 2023, please visit the Quarry website: www.thequarrycablepark.com and complete an Event Inquiry under the Private Events tab.



Electronics Collection: March 6-10

The City's refuse and recycling provider, Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS), will conduct curbside electronics collection between March 6 and March 10, 2023. Residents may set out a maximum of five (5) electronic items, including a limit of one (1) TV or one (1) computer monitor. Electronics will be collected on the regularly scheduled collection day for all Crystal Lake residents. The next LRS electronics collection will be in September 2023.

For the complete list of items that can and cannot be accepted as part of the electronics collection event, see the chart to the right. Information regarding curbside electronics collection can be found on the City website at https://bit.ly/3ZJ9hiT. The City website also has information for year-round electronics collection locations in the State of Illinois.

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

CALENDAR | MARCH 2023

Wednesday, March 1
Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Tuesday, March 7
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Wednesday, March 15
Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M

Tuesday, March 21
City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

All Meetings at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street

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
Eric Helm

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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Visit: https://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 www.crystallake.org.

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