City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITYLETTER



Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

The City of Crystal Lake Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 27, 2024.

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.

Chris Borchert, a Crystal Lake resident, will be the speaker for this year's ceremony. Borchert served in the United States Air Force on active and reserve duty for 28 years, recently retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. His last two assignments were at the Pentagon and Joint Base Andrews, where he was a commander for the 316th Security Forces Group. Borchert also served for 25 years as a Supervisory Special Agent with the FBI, focusing on national security matters. Borchert responded to the 9/11 attacks on the Pentagon, the anthrax attack on Capitol Hill, and other terrorist attacks, including tours in Afghanistan. He recently retired from the FBI and is currently working in the private sector.

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Borchert is the recipient of several commendations, including the Department of State's Medal for Heroism - Afghanistan, six United States Air Force Meritorious Service Medals, the United States Air Force Commendation Medal, two Department of Defense Global War on Terrorism Medals, three United States Air Force Nuclear Deterrence Operations Medals, 12 FBI Performance Awards, and the District of Columbia, United States Attorney's Office, Investigation Performance Award.

In addition to the parade and ceremony, Querhammer and Flagg Funeral Home will host a complimentary breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at their facility, located at 500 W. Terra Cotta Avenue, for all armed service members, active and retired, before the parade begins.

As a reminder, the Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony is a solemn event intended to honor the veterans and those who have given their lives for their country.

Please do not distribute candy or fliers during the parade and please keep marching units and floats consistent with the nature of this event.

For questions about the application or parade, please contact Melanie Nebel at 815-459-2020 or mnebel@crystallake.org.

APPLICATION

VETERANS

Name of Individual/Group: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Branch of Service: _____

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Type of Unit: _____ Number of Participants: _____

Indemnity/Hold Harmless for Use of City-Owned Property
To the fullest extent permitted by law, the undersigned hereby agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the City of Crystal Lake, its elected and appointed officials, agents and employees, against all injuries, deaths, loss, damages, claims, suits, liabilities, judgements, cost and expenses (including attorney fees), which may in any way accrue against the City of Crystal Lake, its elected and appointed officials, agents and employees arising in whole or part or in consequence of the use of City-owned property by the undersigned, its employees, agents, subcontractors, and/or 3rd party, or in which may in anyway result therefore, except that arising out of the sole legal cause of the City of Crystal Lake, its agents or employees. The User of City-owned property shall, at its own expense, appear, defend and pay all charges of attorneys and all costs and other expenses arising therefore or incurred in connections therewith, and, if any judgment shall be rendered against the City of Crystal Lake, its elected and appointed officials, agents, and employees, in any such action, the User shall, at its own expense, satisfy and discharge the same.

Agreed this _____ day of _____, 20_____

_____ (Signature of User)

_____ (Please Print Name)

POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back

On Saturday, April 20, 2024, the Crystal Lake Police Department will participate in the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce's Community Cleanup Day event. From 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., the Police Department will be collecting old or unwanted prescription drugs at the Chamber building, located in McCormick Park.

For prescription drugs, it is recommended to place them in a Ziploc bag. However, if you're dropping off pills in a container, kindly ensure all labels are removed.

Help make a positive impact by safely disposing of these items. Please note that we cannot accept the following:

- Needles (sharps)
- Ointments, lotions, and/or liquids
- Thermometers
- Inhalers
- Hydrogen Peroxide

Let's work together to keep our community clean and safe!

Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Community Cleanup Day

Volunteers can pick up their vests, bags, and gloves upon arrival at the Chamber building. Grab a donut and coffee before heading out to your park assignment! Gather everyone together as there will be an award for the group with the most volunteers!

There will not be electronic recycling or shredding this year.

Volunteers can register at https://bit.ly/3wS3zBj.
For additional questions, please contact the Chamber at 815-459-1300 or email info@clchamber.com.

National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Put safety first by keeping your eyes on the road and not on your phone. If you need to send a text, pull over and park your car in a safe location, or designate your passenger to respond to calls or messages.

Distracted driving is a serious risk. Break the habit and make every journey a safe one. Remember, a text or call can wait. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 3,522 lives were lost in crashes involving distracted drivers in 2021. Drive focused and drive responsibly.

Dunkin' Cop on a Rooftop

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 17, 2024 from 5:00 a.m. to noon! Please join the Crystal Lake Police Department for the 21st Anniversary of Cop on a Rooftop at Dunkin', 4817 Northwest Highway and 290 IL Route 31. This is a wonderful opportunity to support the Special Olympics athletes and to come together as a community!

Officers will be stationed at both Dunkin' locations, raising funds to support the incredible athletes of the Special Olympics.

With every donation, guests not only contribute to a great cause, but also receive a coupon for a free donut. Generous donations of $10 includes a Law Enforcement Torch Run/Dunkin' branded tumbler (while supplies last), a coupon for a free medium hot or iced coffee, and the satisfaction of making a significant impact. Additionally, exclusive shirts and hats will be available for purchase at $20 per shirt and $15 per hat.

This year, the shirts are extra special as our Police

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Department's name will proudly be featured on the back, recognizing the Department finishing in 35th place for top fundraising departments. Now, Crystal Lake needs your help to place higher than last year! If you cannot donate, please help spread the word and let's make a great impact together. Don't miss out on this opportunity to show your support!

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620
Officer Kristiana Stolzman - (815) 356-3673 or kstolzman@crystallake.org

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

THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Earth Day: April 22, 2024

Earth Day is a special day to be reminded of the natural beauty the park has to offer. As the plants come back to life after a long winter's rest, be sure to take a walk on the trails, get a breath of fresh air, and enjoy a peaceful day overlooking the water.



Photo Credit: Ericka Shay

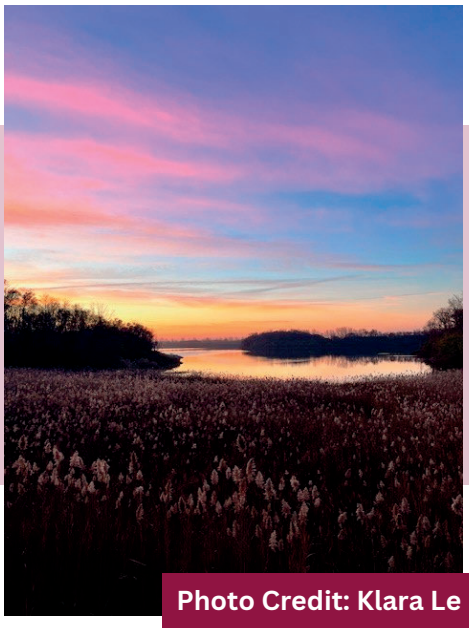


Photo Credit: Klara Le Monier

Fishing

Weather permitting, boat rentals will begin Saturday, April 20, 2024. The marina will be open weekends only, Saturday and Sunday, in April. Only fishing boats will be available during this time due to the colder temperature of the water. For operational status of the marina, please call the Rainout Line. For all other questions regarding marina rentals, please call our Information Line.

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

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Close Your Door

Did you know that simply closing your bedroom door can have a significant impact on fire safety? In a house fire, a closed door can help to reduce carbon monoxide levels, keep room temperatures lower, slow the spread of fire, and keep oxygen levels up.

Research has shown that rooms with a closed door reach temperatures of less than 100 degrees during a fire, while rooms with an open door can reach temperatures over 1,000 degrees. A closed door also keeps carbon monoxide levels lower (about 1,000 parts per million) versus an open door (about 10,000 parts per million). High levels of carbon monoxide are extremely toxic and could lead to death.

When it comes to oxygen levels, a room with an open door has levels of around 8%, which is very low and a room with a closed door has levels of around 18%, which is a breathable level. Also, closing a door can help limit the supply of oxygen to a fire, thus mitigating the rate at which the fire can spread and grow.

The Fire Safety Research Institute conducted a survey and found that most people sleep with their doors open at night! Keep in mind that around half of all home fire fatalities happen in fires that are reported between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Closing a door can help save lives in a home fire!



Smoke Detector Safety Tips

- Smoke detectors should be present in every bedroom and outside each sleeping area. Do not forget to install smoke alarms in the basement.
- It is beneficial to use smoke detectors that are interconnected. If one goes off, then the rest will go off.
- Smoke detectors should be tested once a month to ensure they are working properly. To test, press on the test button.
- Remember to replace your smoke detectors every 10 years. Smoke detectors have an expiration date!

Sources: closeyourdoor.org, estesvalleyfire.org, NFPA.org



2024 Brush Pick-up Schedule Change!

For 2024, the brush pick-up that has historically taken place in the first week of May, will begin later in the month. This change is being implemented to allow residents more time with warmer weather to have brush set out.

Please have brush placed at the curb by 6:00 a.m. on the Monday of your pick-up week. Brush must be six inches or less in diameter and six feet or less in length to be accepted.

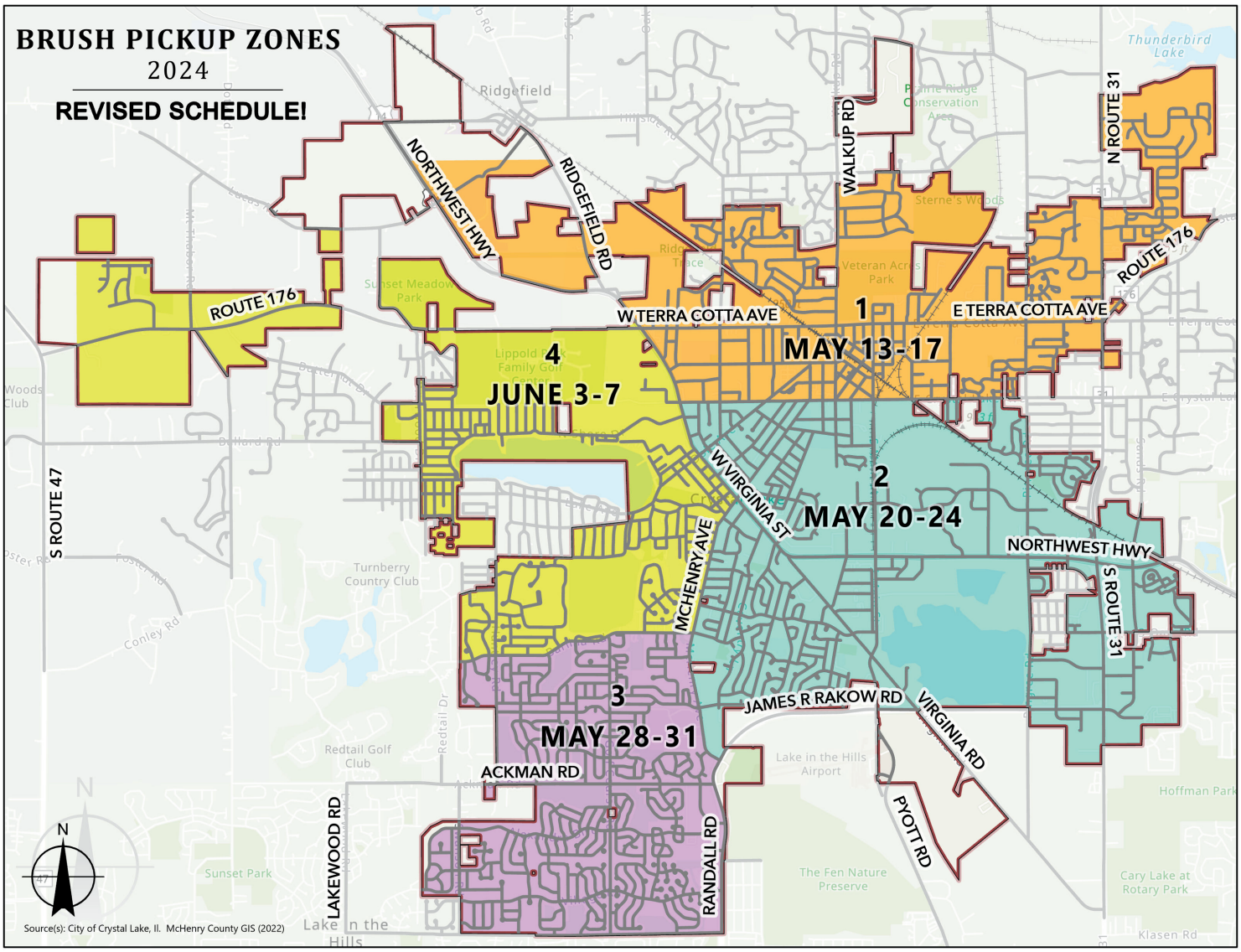
Zone 1 – May 13 - 17
North of Crystal Lake Avenue and East of US Route 14

Zone 2 - May 20 - 24
South of Crystal Lake Avenue and East of US Route 14 and McHenry Avenue



Zone 3 - May 28 - 31
South of Barlina Road and West of McHenry Avenue and Randall Road

Zone 4 – June 3 - 7
North of Barlina Road and West of US Route 14 and McHenry Avenue



Flood Hazard Areas

Information on whether your property is at a higher risk for flooding can be obtained by viewing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain maps online. Maps are also available for viewing at the Community Development counter in City Hall along with other flood-related information. Links to these maps can also be found on the Engineering Division webpage at www.crystallake.org. Contact one of the Civil Engineers in the Engineering Division at (815) 356-3605 for further assistance. City staff is happy to assist residents in reading these maps and locating individual properties. City staff is also available to provide flood protection assistance over the phone or by visiting a property.

Flood Safety

During heavy rains or flash floods, the following general guidelines can help protect you from the dangers of flooding.

- Do not drive through standing water or a flooded area. Do not drive around barriers, as hidden flooding dangers are likely to be present beyond sight of the initial warning signage.
- Do not walk through flowing water. Currents can be deceptive. As little as six inches of water can knock a person off their feet.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires. If your house is in danger of flooding, turn off the power at the service box. Electrical current can travel through water. Electrocution is the second leading cause of death during floods.
- Be alert to gas leaks. Turn off the gas to your house if your home is in danger of flooding. If you smell gas, report it to a City official or your gas company. Do not use candles, lanterns or open flames if you smell gas or are unsure if your gas has been shut off.
- Keep children away from the flood waters, ditches, culverts, and storm drains. Flood waters can carry dangerous moving objects that are not visible from the surface. Culverts may also pose hidden dangers and trap children.
- Clean everything that has been wet. Floodwater will be contaminated with sewage and other chemicals, which pose severe health threats.
- Do not use gas engines, such as generators, or charcoal fires indoors during power outages. Carbon monoxide exhaust can pose serious health hazards.

Property Protection Measures

There are many basic maintenance techniques that you can employ to help minimize potential damage to your property during heavy rains.

- Check sump pumps regularly.
- Clean roof gutters and downspouts regularly.
- Watertight seals can be applied to brick and block walls to protect against low-level flooding.
- Utilities such as heating and air conditioning systems, water heaters and other major appliances can be elevated to higher floors in the structure or on raised platforms.
- Temporary measures such as moving furniture and other valuables to higher floors or sandbagging exterior openings will also help.



Floodplain Permit Requirements

All development within the 100-year floodplain (not just construction of buildings, but filling, excavation, fences, etc.) are required to obtain a permit from the City. Applications must be made prior to doing any work in a floodplain area.

Please contact the Engineering Division to receive all the information you will need in order to properly develop in the floodplain at (815) 356-3605. You may report any illegal development activities to the above number as well.

Flood Insurance

Many residents are unaware that most homeowner's insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. Flood insurance is available to residents of Crystal Lake through their individual insurance carriers, as the City is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Additionally, because the City participates in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) program, flood insurance premiums are discounted for residents in the 100-year floodplain.

If you currently have flood insurance, be sure to check your policy to ensure you have adequate coverage. Usually these policies cover the building structure, but not the contents. Contents coverage can also be obtained and there is a 30-day waiting period before flood insurance coverage becomes effective. Plan ahead; do not wait until a flood is predicted before purchasing flood insurance.

If you are building inside the floodplain, the purchase of flood insurance is mandatory if using a federally regulated and insured bank for a loan.



Drainage System Maintenance

Keeping smaller ditches and streams free of debris can dramatically improve the run-off capacity of low-lying areas, as well as greatly reduce the overland blockage that significantly contributes to flooding. It is illegal to dump materials (including, but not limited to, oil, grease, pesticides, or other pollutants) into a waterway or down storm drains and violators may be fined. If you see someone in the act of dumping or see debris in one of our watercourses, please contact the Engineering Division at (815) 356-3605.

Additional Information

If you would like more information regarding flood-related issues in Crystal Lake, here are some additional sources:

City of Crystal Lake Website
https://www.crystallake.org/your-government/departments/community-development/engineering/flood-hazard

National Flood Insurance Program Website
www.floodsmart.gov/

City of Crystal Lake Engineering Division
100 West Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 356-3605

Crystal Lake Public Library
126 W Paddock Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 459-1687

The Quarry Corner

People say that it is a mother's love that helps the family bloom. As we enter into spring at the Quarry, watching everything blossom back to life, celebrate those who make our lives so magical - moms! Join the Quarry for the annual Mother's Day Spring Market, returning by popular request to Mother's Day weekend on Friday, May 10th and Saturday, May 11th. Sip and shop from over 20 unique vendors and enjoy an enhanced ambiance of fire pits, coffee cart service, and mini photoshoots to help create the perfect outing for your family.



Green Business Designation Program

Every year the Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee highlights a few select businesses from around the community for their outstanding efforts to engage in environmentally friendly practices.

In order to achieve this honor, businesses must illustrate achievement in one of the following 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

This year, seven businesses submitted applications for the program. All seven businesses were selected and given an official Green Business Designation window cling for their business. They were highlighted on the City's Facebook page, had information about their accomplishments to achieve the award shared on the City's website, and are now featured in the City Newsletter. Businesses not featured on the right that still achieved the designation include: the APTAR Group and Duke's Ale House.







Interested in having your business be recognized as part of the Crystal Lake Green Business Designation Program? Use the following link and fill out an application for review by the Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee. All applications submitted in 2024 will be recognized by 2025. Applications are asked to be completed by December 1, 2024. Apply here: https://bit.ly/45hYOh6

Spring into Style - Ladies Night Out!

As the flowers begin to bloom and the sun graces us with its warmth, it's time to shed the winter coats and embrace the vibrancy of spring by attending Downtown Crystal Lake's much anticipated Ladies Night Out.

It's more than just shopping, it's an opportunity to connect with friends, old and new, as you explore the treasures of Downtown Crystal Lake. Indulge in exclusive discounts and special offers at participating stores.

Gather your friends and join us as we "Spring into Style" on April 18th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Downtown Crystal Lake. Let's make memories, discover new treasures, and welcome the season in style!

Clearly CRYSTAL LAKE

CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

Crystal Lake is home to 2,560 businesses comprised of 27,420 employees. Crystal Lake is booming with a wide variety of job opportunities and is home to many manufacturers.

Over the next few months, Crystal Lake's top four largest manufacturers from smallest to largest will be highlighted.

TECHNIPAQ, INC.

The fourth largest manufacturing employer in Crystal Lake with 195 employees is Technipaq, Inc. Technipaq is located at 975 Lutter Drive and has been a leading producer of flexible, sterilized packaging solutions for the healthcare industry for over 40 years.

Based in Crystal Lake, Technipaq is a proud ISO 13485 certified manufacturer, utilizing more than 100,000 - square feet of production and warehousing facilities.

As an authorized converter of DuPont™ Tyvek(R) for medical device packaging, Technipaq produces custom coating and laminations of all designs and run sizes, serving over 90% of medical original equipment manufacturers in North America.

For more information about job opportunities, visit their website in the Careers section at https://technipaq.prevueaps.com/jobs/ or stop by their offices to fill out an application.







Blue Star Banner Program

The City of Crystal Lake and the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce implemented a Blue Star Banner Program to honor and recognize active-duty military who are Crystal Lake residents or active-duty City Government employees. This is a unique way of expressing gratitude to active duty members of the military for their selfless and honorable service to our country and for our freedom. The program is also a vehicle for bringing public awareness to the military heroes of Crystal Lake. Since the program's inception in 2017, there have been more than 141 banners displayed for active duty members of the military.



Blue Star Banner presentation ceremony - December 7, 2023

Personalized banners are displayed along US Route 14 on the section officially known as "Heroes Row" for a three to six month period. They are a moving, visual reminder of the brave men and women who keep our country's freedom a part of their daily lives. This stretch of roadway extends along US Route 14 from Dole Avenue to Keith Avenue. When the banners are removed to make room for new ones, they are then presented to the families at a presentation ceremony.

The Blue Star Banner Program of Crystal Lake is a 501(c)(3) organization. Information about the program can be found on their website at www.bluestarcl.com.

To honor active-duty heroes, nominate them for a free, personalized banner to hang along "Heroes Row" on US Route 14. Scan the QR code for the Blue Star Banner website filled with news, nomination and sponsorship forms, and much more.

CALENDAR | APRIL 2024

Tuesday, April 2
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 3
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Thursday, April 4
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, April 16
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, April 17
Sustainability Committee Meeting
6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, April 17
Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, April 23
Economic Development Committee Meeting
8:00 A.M.

All Meetings at City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR
Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBER
Ellen Brady
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Mandy Montford
Ian Philpot
Denise Smith

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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