City of Crystal Lake, Illinois
CITY LETTER




# Lakeside Festival

Don't miss out on the Annual Lakeside Festival, held on the grounds of the historic Dole Mansion from Thursday, July 3rd through Sunday, July 6th. The festival features live music, food booths, midway games, carnival rides, and a fun family atmosphere. The event is made possible thanks in large part to many hardworking volunteers and sponsors.

Lakeside Festival is the largest fundraiser for the Lakeside Legacy Foundation's year-round programs and events.

The Lakeside Festival festivities will conclude with the City of Crystal Lake sponsored 2025 fireworks show on Sunday, July 6th. The fireworks will launch from Crystal Lake at dusk near Main Beach. The fireworks promise a grand show for the entire family to enjoy.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy Independence Day.

For additional information, visit www.thedole.org or call (815) 455-8000.

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| Lakeside Fest Schedule | |
|---|---|
| Thursday, July 3 | Noon - 11:00 p.m. |
| Friday, July 4 | Noon - 11:00 p.m. |
| Saturday, July 5 | Noon - 11:00 p.m. |
| Sunday, July 6 | Noon - 10:00 p.m. |

**Handicap Parking for Festival**
Handicapped parking is available on Ringling Road east of the Main Stage in the festival grounds. Please contact the Lakeside Legacy Foundation or visit their website for more information regarding festival accessibility (https://www.thedole.org/accessibility-information).

**Road Closure on Country Club Road during Festival Hours**
During the hours the festival is open to patrons (see hours listed above), Country Club Road will be closed between Ringling Road and Broadway Avenue. Upon the festival closing each night, Country Club Road will be open to all vehicle traffic.

**Parking in the County Club/Lake Avenue Lot**
The Lakeside Festival entrances remain the same as they have in years past. The grass lot at the corner of Country Club Road and Lake Avenue will continue to be accessible through an entrance/exit located on Lake Avenue. There will be no vehicle access to that lot from Country Club Road. This parking lot will be closed at 8:00 p.m. on July 6 for the fireworks display.

During the closure, vehicles will not be permitted to enter or exit the lot. The lot will reopen upon the completion of the fireworks display.

**Bicycle Parade the Morning of July 5th**
The annual bicycle parade will take place on Saturday morning at approximately 11:30 a.m. While the short parade is ongoing, Lake Avenue will be closed between Leonard Parkway/Main Beach parking lot entrance and Country Club Road. Country Club Road will be closed from Lake Avenue to Broadway Avenue. Lake Avenue will reopen at approximately noon.

# Independence Day Road Closures

**Independence Day Parade Road Closures on July 6th and Notice of Limited/No Access to Side Streets**
The Independence Day Parade on Sunday, July 6th, will require multiple road closures. The following are approximate road closure times in which vehicles will not be allowed to pass through:

- Woodstock Street between Walkup Avenue and Marian Parkway at approximately 11:00 a.m. No vehicles will be allowed on Woodstock Street after 11:00 a.m.
- Dole Avenue between Woodstock Street and Northwest Highway will be closed at approximately 12:00 p.m. No vehicles will be allowed on that section of Dole Avenue after 12:00 p.m.
- Dole Avenue between Northwest Highway and Country Club Road will be closed at approximately 12:30 p.m. No vehicles will be allowed on that section of Dole Avenue/Lake Avenue after 12:30 p.m.
- Access to the remainder of the parade route, being Country Club Road and Golf Road, will be restricted until the parade is completed.

If you reside near the parade route, anticipate limited to no access to the side streets for the times listed above until the parade is completed. This is being done for the safety of all parade participants and attendees of the parade.

**Independence Day Fireworks Road Closures on July 6th and Notice of Limited/No Access to Side Streets**
On July 6th, at approximately 9:30 p.m. (dusk), the City of Crystal Lake will host a fireworks display at Main Beach. In preparation for the display, the following road closures will take place from 8:00 p.m. until all post fireworks display pedestrian and vehicular traffic is clear:

- Dole Avenue – from Eagle Street to Lakeshore Drive
- Lakeshore Drive at Eagle Street
- Lake Avenue at Lakeshore Drive
- Lake Avenue at Spruce Lane
- Lake Avenue at Riverside Drive
- Country Club Road – from Ringling Road to Broadway Avenue




Similar to the parade, if you reside in the area around Main Beach, anticipate no access to any roadways in the area prior to, during, and following the fireworks display until pedestrian and vehicular traffic has significantly left the area.

# 2025 Independence Day Parade

The City of Crystal Lake will be celebrating Independence Day with the much-anticipated parade and fireworks. This year's Independence Day parade will resume its traditional 1.8-mile route of heading down Dole Avenue. The parade will kick off on Sunday, July 6th at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall (100 W. Woodstock Street), where it will continue down Dole Avenue, and finishes at the Lakeside Festival Grounds.

**Accessible Viewing Area**

Additionally, an accessible viewing area and handicap parking area for the Independence Day parade will be located in the parking lot at the corner of Woodstock Street and Dole Avenue at the start of the parade route. Signage will mark the designated area and access point. The location is shown to the right.

Entry from Woodstock Street will close at 11:00 a.m. Entry from Dole Avenue will close at 12:00 p.m.




Accessible Viewing Area

# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Did You Know...

With the rise in popularity of the electric/gas powered bicycles, it is important to keep in mind a few safety pointers to prevent accidents this summer. Helmets are always a good idea when it comes to protecting ourselves from injury. It is also helpful to remember the rules of the road. State law categorizes e-bikes into three classifications:

- **Class 1** - Motor assists only when pedaling and stops at 20 mph
- **Class 2** - Motor operates even when not pedaling and stops at 20 mph
- **Class 3** - Motor assists only when pedaling and stops at 28 mph

No one under the age of 16 can lawfully ride a Class 3 electric bicycle. The Crystal Lake Police Department encourages residents to become familiar with the classifications and varying laws/ordinances.

If you have further questions, please feel free to call the non-emergency number and ask to speak with an officer.



**Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620**

Deputy Police Chief Rick Neumann - (815) 356-3756 or rneumann@crystallake.org

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

# FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

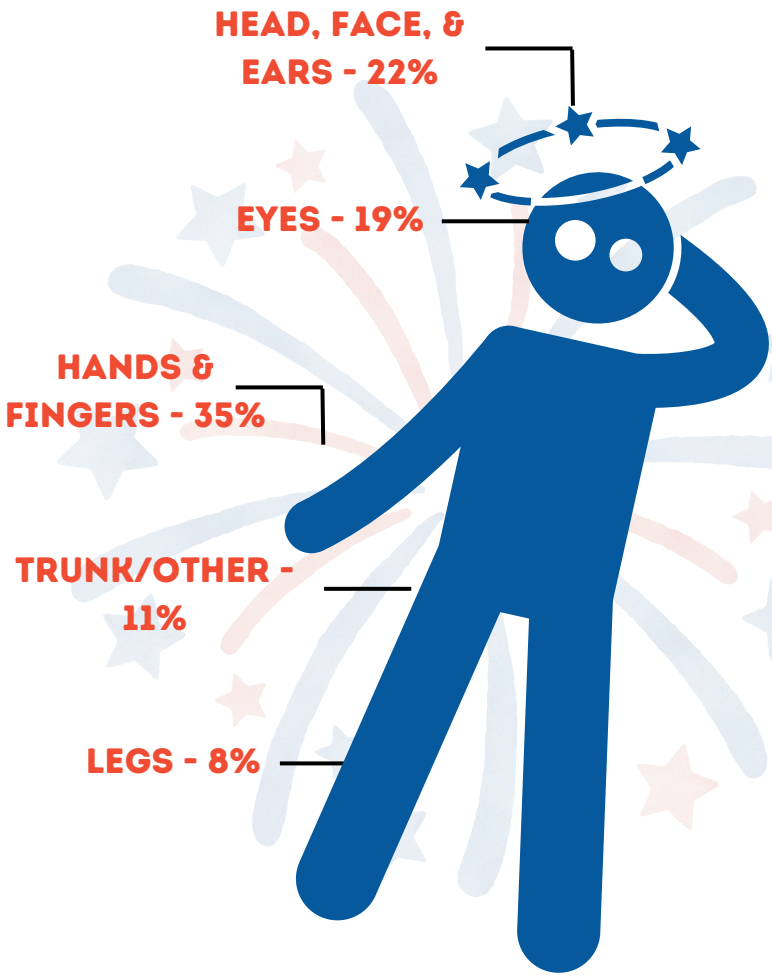
## Celebrate Safely

As you prepare for your Fourth of July festivities, make sure you know the facts and risks that are prevalent with the use of fireworks. Consumer fireworks are illegal in the State of Illinois and unlawful in the City of Crystal Lake per City ordinance. Fireworks can easily cause serious injury or death. In 2023, fireworks caused 8 deaths, and 9,700 people were treated for firework-related injuries.

Children in particular have high rates of fireworks-related injuries, resulting in an emergency room visit. Children between the ages of 15 to 19 years had the highest estimated rate of fireworks-related injuries that resulted in an emergency room visit, followed by children aged 5 to 9 years old. Around 800 emergency room treated injuries were associated with firecrackers and 700 with sparklers.

Sparklers burn hotter than you think! Sparklers burn at temperatures of approximately 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit, which is hot enough to melt certain metals.

In addition to physical injuries that can be caused by fireworks, they can also cause significant damage to property. The NFPA reports that an estimated 12,264 fires were started by fireworks in 2021. Of those fires, 2,082 were structure fires, 316 were vehicle fires, and 9,866 were categorized as outside and “other” fires. If you would like to enjoy fireworks, please attend a professional show.




**COMMONLY INJURED BODY PARTS**

*Source: NFPA.org, Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshall, & U.S Consumer Product Safety Commission*

**Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (815) 356-3640**

**Follow the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department on Facebook for safety tips, events, and community updates!**

# THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

**Park Hours**
**6:30 A.M. - Sunset**

## Pet Rules

Dogs may walk on the trails, if they are kept on a short leash. Owners must abide by the City's Rules and Regulations relating to leashes and removal of animal defecation.

Litter bags and drop stations are provided at the start of the East Trail and West Trail. Dogs are not allowed to enter the water, picnic grounds, Marina, or Lake House Complex.

## Open Water Swim

Open Water Swim is described as distanced swimming beyond the boundaries of the regular swim beach on select dates and times only. This is a special session that is in addition to the regular swim beach operation hours. There will be no Open Water Swim sessions on July 3rd or 5th due to the holiday.

Registration and check-in begins 60 minutes prior to scheduled start times. The Open Water Swim fee is $5.00 each session, per participant.

**OWS Thursdays | 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**
**July 10, 17, 24**

**OWS Saturdays | 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**
**July 12, 19, & 26**

**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**

## Watering Restrictions Reminder

Water is one of the area's greatest resources, but a finite supply is available. It is important to conserve water resources, especially in times of high demand and limited rainfall. Increased outdoor watering can lead to strains on the City's water system. To help reduce water system demands, the Public Works Department has implemented a water conservation plan and color-coded water regulation program.

The City's current watering restrictions are "yellow". Yellow watering restrictions states:

*Lawn & landscape watering is permitted on odd / even days between the hours of 5:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Property addresses ending in odd numbers shall be permitted to use water on odd-numbered calendar days and even-numbered addresses on even-numbered calendar days.*

The City will inform residents if the water system status changes from yellow to any other color.

# PRESERVING OUR SACRED SPACES

DIANA KENNEY

For most people, the term, “sacred space” brings to mind a place of worship. But beyond churches, there are other sacred spaces in our community – places that are highly-valued and important. A historic house, school, community building or downtown can all be considered a sacred space.

Two great examples of preserving a sacred space are found on Pierson Street. About five years ago, the 1924 St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church façade was repaired and restored. Over the past 100 years, countless baptisms, marriages and funerals have been held within this sacred space. With the church’s significant investment, the building should be able to serve its congregation for the next 100+ years.

Just next door to St. Thomas on Pierson Street is the First Congregational Church of Crystal Lake. This iconic white-steepled place of worship has been standing tall since 1867, making it the oldest building continuously used as a place of worship in Crystal Lake.




***FCC's church building was erected in 1867 at a cost of $7,000. Through the years, it has maintained its historic and iconic façade***

The First Congregational Church (FCC) was organized in 1842, which was just six years after our community’s first settlers, Beman and Polly Crandall arrived and settled in Crystal Lake.

Early church services were held in members’ homes until a church building could be erected. FCC’s congregation was always active within the community. As early as 1850, church records indicate the congregation took a very definite stand against slavery, as it existed in the southern states. During the Civil War, the Soldiers Aid Society was organized by leaders of the congregation. Its purpose was to assemble relief packages and ship supplies to the men fighting in the Union Army.

One doesn’t have to go back 150+ years to find other examples of FCC’s community involvement. Friendship House preschool and daycare was started in 1965 by the women of FCC who recognized a need for safe childcare for working mothers. Friendship House, a Crystal Lake treasure, will be celebrating its 60th anniversary in October. Back in the late 1970s, FCC’s congregation hosted the first Lakeside Festival. This tradition continues, bringing the community together each summer to celebrate and raise funds for another sacred space in our community, the Dole Mansion.

Maintaining and caring for our community’s sacred spaces is no easy task. It takes time, money and commitment. Just ask FCC’s congregation as they maintain their firm resolve to preserve their sacred space on Pierson Street—a space for all of us to enjoy and treasure.

As warm weather approaches, take a walk around Crystal Lake. What other buildings or structures are sacred, highly-valued or important to you? As a community, what can you do to help make sure these sacred spaces are preserved for future generations?

*About the Author: Diana Kenney is President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society. To contact Diana, email info@cl-hs.org*

# CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

## Tumblers Around Town All Summer Long!

Come join the scavenger hunt fun around town with a new location every week! Each Tuesday, a new Clearly Crystal Lake tumbler will be hidden somewhere throughout Crystal Lake in a restaurant or retail store. A picture will be posted on the Clearly Crystal Lake Facebook and Instagram pages every Tuesday morning at 8:00 a.m. with a clue of where it can be found. The hunt begins at 10:00 a.m. that same day. The first person to find the tumbler gets to keep it, and is asked to share a picture of where it was found to the existing Clearly Crystal Lake social media post!




Be on the lookout for the tumblers around town as this scavenger hunt will run through the end of August 2025. Follow the Clearly Crystal Lake social media pages to stay in the fun by scanning the QR codes below!

FOLLOW US ON Instagram

Facebook

# CALENDAR | JULY 2025

**Tuesday, July 1**
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

**Wednesday, July 2**
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

**Friday, July 4**
City Offices Closed

**Sunday, July 6**
Independence Day Parade & Fireworks

**Wednesday, July 9**
Public Arts Commission Meeting
8:00 A.M.

**Tuesday, July 15**
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

**Wednesday, July 16**
Planning & Zoning Commission 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**
**Brett Hopkins**
**Cameron Hubbard**
**Ian Philpot**
**Denise Smith**
**Natasha Teetsov**

**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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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 emailed to comments@crystallake.org.