City of Crystal Lake, Illinois CITYLETTER







Be Alarmed! Smoke Alarm Installation Program

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department offers free smoke alarm installations for eligible Crystal Lake residents. The Department can install a 10-year sealed lithium battery-operated smoke alarm in **at-risk homes**. The Department will not provide smoke alarms that are part of a hard-wired system. Bed shaker alarms are available for residents who are deaf or hard of hearing. Residents who have purchased their own smoke alarms and need assistance with installation can also call the Department for help. For assistance, elligibility information, or to determine if your home is at risk, please contact the Fire Rescue Department at 815-356-3640.

Please note: Business owners, apartment complex managers, and landlords must supply and install their own smoke alarms for their tenants.

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FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

National Poison Prevention Week

March 15 through 21 is National Poison Prevention Week. According to America's Poison Centers, facilities nationwide receive millions of calls, most of which are related to people encountering dangerous or potentially dangerous substances. Knowledge of poison safety is the best way to protect against a poison accident. America's Poison Centers also reports poisoning as the leading cause of injury-related deaths in the U.S., stating that more people die of poisonings each year than gun or car-related injuries.

Check your home for potential poison risks:

Secured Medication

- Ensure all medications are stored properly and locked away out of the reach of children.
- Remember, child resistant locks on medications or cabinets are not 100% child proof.

Household Plants

- Assess the types of plants present in your home. Research whether any are poisonous, and if necessary, relocate them to a child and pet-free area.

Medication Tracking

- Keep track of your medication schedule. Take your time to ensure the correct dose is administered.

Carbon Monoxide

- Carbon Monoxide is known as the "Silent Killer." This colorless and odorless gas can be deadly. Have working carbon monoxide detectors on every level in your home.

Save the Poison Help Hotline Number

- Have the members in your household save the Poison Help hotline phone number in their phones in case of an emergency. Assistance is available 24/7, and it's free. **1-800-222-1222**



Source: America's Poison Centers

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (815) 356-3640

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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Self-Injury Awareness Day

March 1st is Self-Injury Awareness Day. The Crystal Lake Police Department would like for the community to know that support and help are available for anyone who is struggling with self-harm or knows someone who is. For some individuals, overwhelming feelings caused by depression or anxiety can lead them to self-harm as a way to cope or find relief. Self-harm, also known as self-injury, refers to intentionally hurting oneself.

In most cases, it is not a suicide attempt, but rather a way people try to manage or release intense emotional pain.



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

As the community comes together to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, one of the busiest drinking holidays of the year, the Crystal Lake Police Department encourages everyone to look out for one another and celebrate responsibly. Please plan and designate a sober driver or use a safe, paid transportation option to help keep our roads safe for everyone. Additional Crystal Lake officers will be joining statewide traffic safety and DUI enforcement efforts throughout the St. Patrick's Day weekend.





Coffee with the Chief

On March 19, 2026 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Crystal Lake Police Department will be hosting Coffee with the Chief. The topic for this event will be "Common Scams". This event will be held at City Hall located at 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 McGrath via email at kmcgrath@crystallake.org or by calling (815) 356-3755.

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

Officer Kelci McGrath - (815) 356-3755 or kmcgrath@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

Employment

The Three Oaks Recreation Area is currently hiring Lifeguards for the 2026 season.

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

Applicants must be at least 16 years of age at the time of hire. For position details, visit the City of Crystal Lake Human Resources Employment page.



Opening Dates

Marina
The Marina will tentatively open for the season on Saturday, April 18, 2026.

- The Marina will be open on weekends only (Saturday and Sunday) in April during limited hours.
- Only row boats will be available in April due to the cold weather. Our entire fleet of boats will be available at the Marina in May.

Swim Beach
The Swim Beach will tentatively open for the season on Saturday, May 23, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

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

Open Water Swim
Open Water Swim (OWS) is described as distance swimming beyond the boundaries of the beach's buoy markers only on select dates. OWS will be held on Thursdays and Saturdays in June and July, weather permitting. There will be no OWS on July 4th due to the holiday.

Please visit the Three Oaks pages on our website for up-to-date information.

Guest Photo Submissions

With permission from our park guests, photos submitted to Three Oaks will have the opportunity to have their pictures featured in the City's Newsletter. Proper photo credits will be given. Pictures can be submitted to threeoaks@crystallake.org.

Groundwater Awareness Week

Did you know that the City of Crystal Lake relies on groundwater for our public water supply? This vital resource is tucked away right beneath our feet and pumped to the surface from aquifers below the land's surface.

While water is one of our community's greatest assets, it isn't infinite. It's up to all of us to protect our supply, especially during the busy summer months or dry spells.

Helping is easy! Check out these simple ways you can save water at home:

- Take shorter showers and turn off the water while brushing your teeth or washing your face.
- Give your toilets and faucets a quick check for leaks or consider upgrading to high-efficiency models.
- Only run your dishwasher and washing machine when they are completely full.
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the fridge so you don't have to run the tap to get a cold glass.

Register for the WaterSmart portal to better understand your water bill and learn new ways where you can save water, starting in your home! http://crystallakeil.watersmart.com



Memorial Day Parade and Cemetery Service

The City of Crystal Lake Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 25, 2026.

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.

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.

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

This event is weather dependent. The individual listed on the application will be your organization's day-of contact should the City need to notify those of any weather-related changes via email. If you are interested in participating in the parade or have any inquiries, please email Melanie Gray at mgray@crystallake.org to complete an application today.







Spring 2026 Full System Hydrant Flushing Schedule

Section 1 – March 23 – March 27
North of IL Route 176 and East of US Route 14, East of Terra Cotta Road and North of Crystal Lake Avenue

Section 2 - March 30 – April 3
South of IL Route 176 to US Route 14, East of Main Street to IL Route 31 (south of Crystal Lake Avenue), East of Pingree Road and South of US Route 14 to Walmart

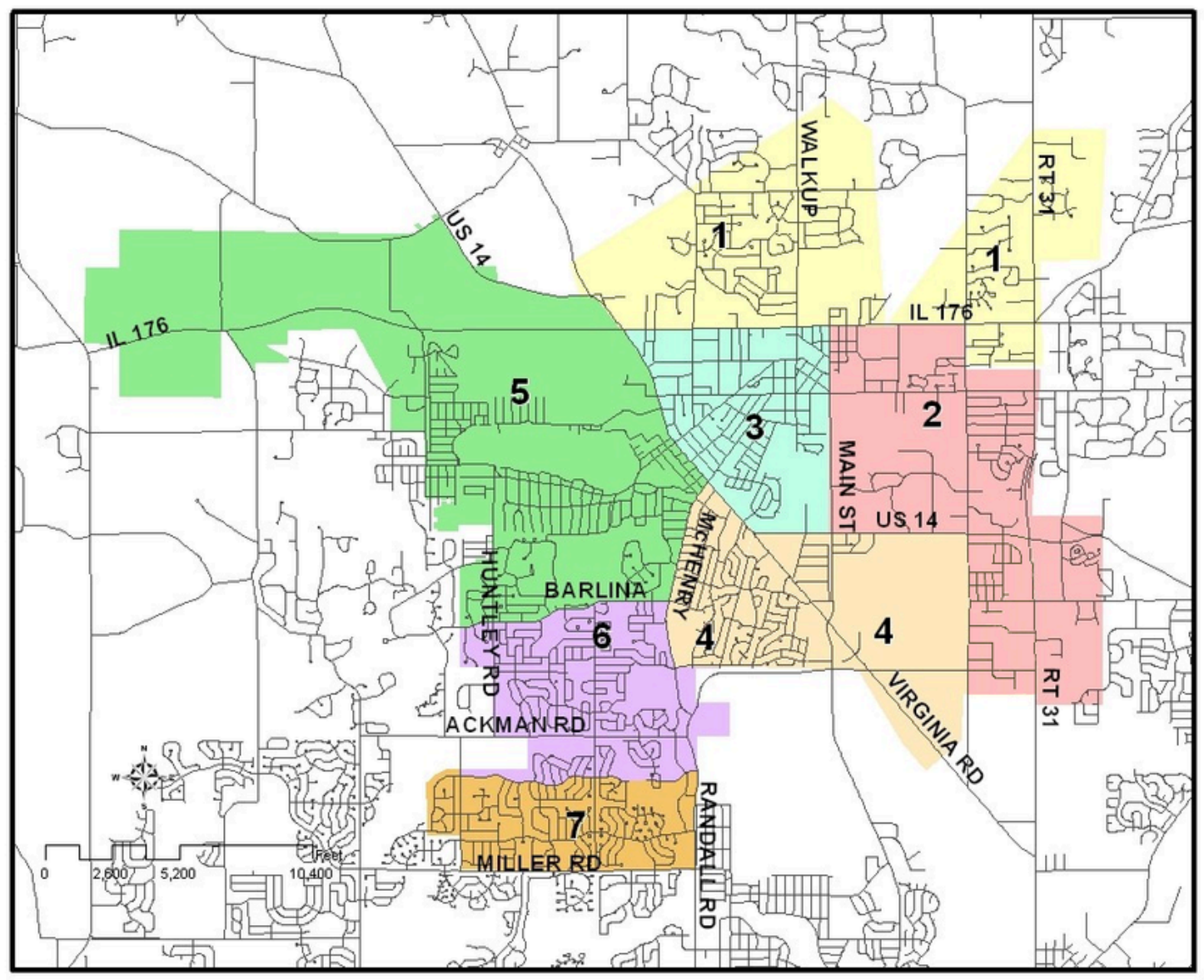
Section 3 - April 6 – April 10
South of IL Route 176 to US Route 14, East of US Route 14 to Main Street

Section 4 – April 13 – April 17
South of US Route 14, East of McHenry Avenue to West of Pingree Road

Section 5 – April 20 – April 24
West of US Route 14 and McHenry Avenue, North of Barlina Road

Section 6 – April 27 – May 1
South of Barlina Road to Alexandra Boulevard, West of McHenry Avenue and West of Randall Road

Section 7 – May 4 – May 8
South of Alexandra Boulevard to Miller Road, West of Randall Road



CLEARLY CRYSTAL LAKE CORNER

Cup of Cocoa Scavenger Hunt!

Be on the lookout for the Clearly Crystal Lake Cup of Cocoa as you visit small businesses throughout Crystal Lake!

Each week during the month of March, a new Cup of Cocoa will be hidden inside a participating local business, waiting to be found.

The cup is hidden every Monday, and a clue will be posted on the Clearly Crystal Lake social media pages, so be sure to follow along and check often. The first person to find the cup gets to keep it, so keep your eyes open while you shop, dine, and support local. Happy hunting, Crystal Lake!



www.clearlycrystallake.com

www.facebook.com/clearlycrystallake **www.instagram.com/clearlycrystallake/**

CALENDAR | MARCH 2026

Monday, March 2
Historic Preservation Commission Meeting
4:30 P.M.

Tuesday, March 3
City Council Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 4
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 11
Public Arts Commission Meeting
8:00 A.M.

Thursday, March 12
Youth Commission Meeting
4:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 18
Sustainability Committee Meeting
6:00 P.M.

Wednesday, March 18
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

City Hall
(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 Newsletter, please email City staff at comments@crystallake.org.

If you have questions or concerns for specific City departments, please contact the following:

City Manager's Office	(815) 459-2020	Option 5
Community Development Department	(815) 356-3605	
Finance Department	(815) 459-2020	Option 0
Fire Rescue Department	(815) 356-3640	
Human Resources Department	(815) 459-2020	Option 7
Police Department	(815) 356-3620	
Public Works and Engineering Department	(815) 356-3614	