

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois CITY LETTER



SHOP LOCAL: NEW BUSINESSES, RESTAURANTS AND RETAILERS IN 2018

The holiday season is in full swing, and shopping local supports the community by keeping your money in town where it supports business owners, employees, and other local groups.

2018 was an exciting year for growth in Crystal Lake. Many existing retailers expanded and new retailers and restaurants entered our market.

Looking for an indoor activity for the kids? Check out these two new options this winter!

- Jump!Zone - 6250 Northwest Highway
- Urban Air Adventure Park - 220 Exchange Drive, Unit F



Looking for that perfect gift? Here are some new shopping locations in Crystal Lake.

- Ulta Beauty - 5774 Northwest Highway
- TJ Maxx - 5764 Northwest Highway
- Crown and Contour - 58 N. Williams Street
- Empowered Interiors - 12 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
- The Uniform Store - 58 N. Williams Street
- Bii Natural Salon & Shop - 12 Crystal Lake Plaza

Hungry from all that shopping? Come check out new restaurant locations in town.

- La Antigua - 1500 Carlemon Drive, Unit J
- Plum Garden - 446 W. Virginia Street
- Mugs Pizza and Ribs - 230 W Virginia Street, Unit 600
- Culver's Restaurant - 400 Pingree Road
- Cottage on the Go - 256 Oak Street
- Tommy's Red Hots - 875 E. Terra Cotta Avenue

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Crystal Lake Police Department

National Impaired Driving Prevention Month

When compared to 2016 traffic data, traffic related fatalities dropped by 2% nationwide in 2017. Alcohol-impaired-driving related fatalities also decreased, but only by 1.6%.



-Information from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

However, in 2016 and 2017, Illinois saw one of the highest increases in traffic - related fatalities in nearly a decade. Driver behavior needs to change.

Additional Crystal Lake Officers will be participating in a traffic enforcement campaign throughout the holiday season. The primary focus for the campaign will be distracted and intoxicated driving among other traffic violations. **Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over.**



Shop with a Cop

Shop with a Cop is an event that provides approximately 200 underprivileged children from McHenry County a positive interaction with law enforcement officers by going Christmas shopping. Shopping is followed by breakfast and pictures with Santa.



Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots

Last year, the Crystal Lake Police Department collected over 1,200 new and unused toys for the Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program. Toys were gift wrapped and distributed to many children residing in McHenry County.

Now through Monday, December 17, 2018, please help the Crystal Lake Police Department by donating a new or used unwrapped toy in the marked Toys for Tots cardboard box located in the Police Department lobby. Our lobby hours are:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:00 am - 6:00 pm,
- Tuesday and Thursday
8:00 am - 7:00 pm.

Together, we can help make a child's Christmas merrier.



Officer Ed Pluviose - (815) 356-3731 or by email at epluviose@crystallake.org
Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620



CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE

Festive celebrations, flickering lights and winter greens are hallmarks of the holiday season, but they also present fire risks that can quickly turn this festive time of year into a devastating one. Once again this year, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department is participating in the "Keep the Wreath Red" program. This program is a reminder to practice safety precautions during the holiday season. On the west side of the City Hall Municipal Complex, you will see a wreath decorated in red lights displayed in the Fire Rescue Watch Office window. In the unfortunate event of a holiday related fire, a red bulb will be replaced with a white bulb. This program runs through New Year's Day. Help us "Keep the Wreath Red" by following these simple tips from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

Decorating:

- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn. Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Consider upgrading to flameless candles this holiday season!
- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched, and be sure to water your fresh cut tree daily to keep it from drying out. A dry tree becomes extremely flammable.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.
- Do not overload wall plugs or extension cords. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both. Verify your lights are being used in the proper location. Do not place electric cords under rugs or carpets. All electric cords should be UL approved.

Entertaining:

- TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARMS and tell guests about your home fire escape plan (know 2 ways out!).
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- When cooking, never leave a stovetop unattended.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN

Be on the lookout for off duty members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department ringing the bell outside Jewel Osco on December 22, 2018 to help raise money for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Fundraising Campaign. All donations collected in McHenry County stay in McHenry County to provide services to those in need.

OPERATION NORTH POLE

On Saturday, December 15th, Fire Rescue personnel along with members of the Crystal Lake Police Department and other McHenry County fire departments will again have the privilege of participating in Operation North Pole. This annual event brings children with life threatening illnesses and their families through Crystal Lake on a specially decorated Metra train to the "North Pole" where they are treated to a day filled with surprises and wonderment. It is ONP's goal to provide these families an unforgettable experience amidst the very challenging times they face daily. Show your support and love for these wonderful children by joining us at the Pingree Metra Station on December 15, 2018 to wave as they head to the "North Pole"! Additional event information located at www.facebook.com/crystallakefire

NATIONAL INFLUENZA VACCINATION WEEK IS DECEMBER 2 – 8, 2018

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. People of every age are at risk of flu. An annual flu vaccine is the best way to protect against this potentially serious disease. Getting vaccinated yourself protects people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies and young children, older people, and people with chronic health conditions. Find a place near you to get a flu vaccine at www.vaccinefinder.org.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Three Oaks Recreation Area

5517 Northwest Highway Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Information Hotline: (815) 356-2447

Website: threeoaksrecreation.com

DECEMBER PARK HOURS 6:30 a.m. to Sunset

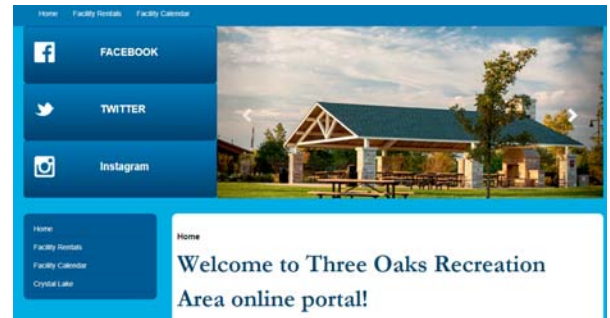
New for 2019: ONLINE PAVILION RESERVATIONS

Pavilion Rental Reservations

Reservations for 2019 open on Wednesday, January 2nd for in-person rentals only starting at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall. Beginning January 3rd, the City will start accepting reservations online. All pavilions are reserved on a "first-come, first-serve" basis.

To reserve a pavilion on January 2nd: Walk-ins Only

- Visit City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock Street, between 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Have your preferred date and backup dates ready.
- Staff will walk you through our new online reservation portal. Note: an account will need to be made on the portal. Be prepared to have an email and password ready to set up.



To reserve a pavilion on/after January 3rd:

You can reserve a pavilion three ways: visit City Hall, call (815) 459-2020, ext. 4288, or visit our website www.threeoaksrecreation.com under the "Pavilion Rentals" tab and there you will find the link to the Pavilion Rental Portal.

- You will need to create an account on the portal
- You will be able to check pavilion availability and submit a request for your pavilion rental

Your pavilion will not officially be reserved until it has been approved by staff and payment has been received. All deposits and rental fees must be paid within 24 hours of pavilion request approval. If all payments are not received within 24 hours, the reservation will not be accepted.

All details (size of pavilions, locations, fee schedule, amenities) and related FAQ forms are available on our website www.threeoaksrecreation.com under the "Pavilion Rentals" tab. Should you have any questions or troubles with the portal, please contact City staff at 815-459-2020 ex. 4288.

Pavilions available to rent



Pavilion A:
Picnic Grove



Pavilion B:
Island Pavilion



Pavilion C:
Volleyball Court Pavilion



Pavilion D:
North Lake Pavilion



Lakehouse Patio:
Available after Labor Day

Join the Team!

Applications are being accepted to join us this upcoming 2019 season! Seasonal Lifeguards, Cashiers, and Marina Attendant roles are available. For position details, visit the City of Crystal Lake Human Resources Employment page and complete an employment application today!

CITY OF CRYSTAL LAKE

WINTER SEASON PREPARATIONS

It's that time of year again when winter weather operations are kicking into gear. Last winter, the Public Works Department responded to 38 snow and ice events, which is an increase of four events from the previous year. During the 2017/2018 winter season, the City received 41.75" of snow.

The Public Works Department has begun preparing for the 2018/2019 winter season. In the weeks and months before the winter weather sets in, Public Works staff completes snowplow truck inspections, and all trucks are converted into "winter mode" with the installation of de-icing equipment, pre-wetting tanks, and snowplows. All of the City's snowplow drivers review their routes and familiarize themselves new equipment or procedures.

As we enter into the winter season here are a few helpful reminders and tips:

- Arterial streets are plowed first since all side streets funnel into these heavier used roads.
- Secondary streets, such as residential and local streets, will be plowed next.
- Residential streets will be plowed in about 2.5 to 3 hours; center-lined and plowed down both sides.
- When shoveling driveways, snow should be placed to the left of the driveway (to the left if facing the driveway) as this helps our plow drivers push the snow to the appropriate areas.
- Once plow drivers have plowed your road, and if you still need to snow blow your driveway, it is best to place the snow in your yard or in the parkway to prevent snow piles from building up at the end of your driveway.
- Snow should be cleared from fire hydrants to assist the Fire Rescue Department.
- Residents are asked not to park on City streets at night. Parking is prohibited from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

If you have any questions regarding winter season operations please contact the Public Works Department at 815-356-3614.



SANTA HOUSE: OPEN THROUGH DECEMBER 23RD

- Thursday & Friday (6PM to 8PM)
- Saturday (10AM to 3PM)
- Sunday (Noon to 3PM)

Last year, over 2,000 children and their families visited Santa in his Downtown Crystal Lake Santa House.

Visits are FREE. The memories are PRICELESS! Our relaxed, living room environment provides a comfortable, inviting place for children to sit on Santa's knee. Bring your camera, and be prepared to SMILE! Children whisper their wishes during their visit with Santa in the comfort of his house at Brink Street Market.

www.DowntownCL.org

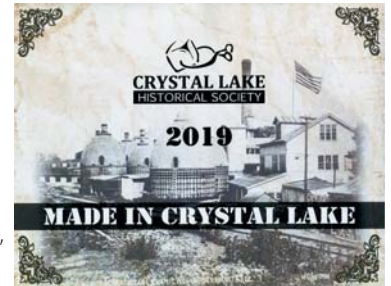


2019 CALENDAR AVAILABLE MADE IN CRYSTAL LAKE

Through the years, many specialty items have been MADE IN CRYSTAL LAKE. From speed boats to mandolins to collectible pottery to government secrets.....read about the well-known and obscure items that have been MADE IN CRYSTAL LAKE.

Calendars are available for \$10 at:

- Crystal Lake City Hall, 100 W. Woodstock St.
- Colonel Palmer House, 660 E. Terra Cotta
- Heisler's Bootery, 50 N. Williams St.
- KaleidoScoops Ice Cream, 53 N. Williams St.
- Online: www.cl-hs.org



Proceeds benefit the Crystal Lake Historical Society

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REMINDER

This is an important reminder that school is in session, and school buses are hard at work transporting kids to and from school. Please use caution around bus stops. The riskiest part of the ride is the bus stop!

- Most children killed in bus-related accidents are either getting on or off the bus. They are killed by the school bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped bus.
- When driving through neighborhoods, be aware of school buses and take caution when you see one. The bus will stop at some point, and children exiting or boarding the school bus may be crossing the street.

When a school bus is traveling on a two-lane street and is stopped to pick up or drop off children, vehicles in all lanes must stop. All vehicles must remain stopped until the bus' stop arm is fully retracted and its warning lights stop blinking. Vehicles should stop at least 20 feet away from the bus to allow children to cross the street safely.



When a school bus is on a four-lane road with at least two lanes traveling the opposite direction, only those lanes of traffic traveling in the same direction as the school bus must stop. School bus routes are designed so that children will not be required to cross four or more lanes of traffic to reach their residence.

Please use caution and drive carefully when you see a bus or when you see children at a bus stop.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: Refuse, Recycling and Yard Waste

Can my garbage and recycling bins be stored in front of my house?

City ordinance states that garbage and recycling cans cannot be stored in the front yard setback, which is typically the area between the sidewalk and the front of the house. Residents are encouraged to store their cans inside their garages. Alternatively, they can be stored beside the house or garage so long as they are out of the front yard setback.

What should I do if my garbage or recycling collection is missed?

Any garbage, recycling or yard waste that is missed by Prairieland Disposal will be collected within 24 hours of the missed collection. Please contact Prairieland Disposal at (847) 381-9300 if your garbage, recycling or yard waste has been missed.

How do I register an account to begin service?

Residents who are new to the City can contact Prairieland Disposal at (847) 381-9300 to setup an account and begin receiving curbside refuse, recycling and yard waste collection.

Do I have to pay an extra fee to dispose of large items or appliances?

Prairieland will collect one bulk item on your regularly scheduled collection day each week at no extra cost. Items that require more than one person to lift into a disposal truck may require an additional fee, including large furniture such as couches. White goods, such as refrigerators, microwaves, and washing and drying machines will be collected for \$35.00 per item. Please call Prairieland Disposal in advance to request collection of white goods.

Christmas Tree Collection

Prairieland Disposal, the City's refuse contractor, will conduct Christmas tree collection from Monday, December 31, 2018 through Friday January 18, 2019.

Residents should have their Christmas tree on the curbside by 7:00 a.m. between Monday, December 31, 2018 and Friday January 18, 2019 to be collected for composting. Trees will be collected throughout this time period, however it is a special collection and may not occur on the same day as residents' scheduled collection day.

If you have any questions regarding refuse, recycling or yard waste, please contact Prairieland Disposal at (847) 381-9300 or on their website at www.PrairielandDisposal.com.

CALENDAR | December 2018

Sunday, December 2

- Santa Run For Kids, 9:00 a.m. (Raue Center for the Arts)

Tuesday, December 4

- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Wednesday, December 5

- Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Tuesday, December 18

- City Council Meeting, 7:30 p.m. (City Hall)

Monday, December 24

Tuesday, December 25

- City Offices Closed

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR

Aaron T. Shepley

COUNCILMEMBER

Ellen Brady

Ralph M. Dawson

Cathy A. Ferguson

Brett Hopkins

Cameron Hubbard

Haig Haleblan

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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Go green by signing up for
the City's Newsletter electronically.

Visit www.crystallake.org/residents/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@crystallake.org.
