MAKE EVERY DAY EARTH DAY

Although Lindenhurst won’t be celebrating Earth Day until Saturday, April 23rd, there are many things we can do year around in service to our earth: picking up roadside trash; recycling whenever possible; and planting native plants and trees.

It’s not too early to start planning for your Spring landscaping projects. Residents can take advantage of the Village 50/50 Tree Replacement and Shoreline Stabilization Programs. The Village also has 50/50 Rain Barrel and Compost Bin Programs. Funds are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Checkout the Village website at www.lindenhurstil.org for more information on these mutually beneficial programs.

Not only will these enhancements beautify your property, but they greatly benefit the environment. For additional ideas, visit conservelakecounty.org, where you can learn about their Conservation@Home program.

Besides recycling paper, plastics, and glass at home, residents can dispose of their unwanted prescriptions at the Lindenhurst Police Department’s drug disposal bin, located in their front lobby. The Clothing & Textile drop box is located in the Village Hall’s southwest parking lot area. And the shoe recycling bin is located inside the Village Hall foyer, 2301 E. Sand Lake Road.

Community Calendar
Visit www.lindenhurstil.org for more details about all Village events:

- January 26: Chamber of Commerce Luncheon, location TBA; www.llvchamber.com
- February: Beck Road Information Meeting, date/location TBA
- February 15: Village Hall closed in honor of Presidents Day
- February 20: Park District Daddy/Daughter Cinderella Royal Ball; www.lindenhurstparks.org
- March 19 or 20, if rains: Park District Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bunny Meet; www.lindenhurstparks.org
- March 19-20: Chamber of Commerce SpringFest, Lakes Community High School; www.llvchamber.com
- April 23: Earth Day Celebration, Village Hall, 2301 E. Sand Lake Road

Question: Is it safe to stand on cloudy, opaque lake ice?
From the Mayor’s Desk

Construction Season(s)

Get used to the plural as noted in the title of this article - we will be very busy the next couple of years working with our contractors and other government agencies to bring these much-needed improvements to our community:

- Lake Michigan Water
- Beck Road Improvements
- Grand Avenue Streetscaping

Let’s not forget the State-run/County-funded Millburn Bypass project somewhere out on the horizon.

Although multiple construction efforts will be underway, our objectives are to complete all work on-time, within budget, in a quality manner, and with minimal impact to you - our residents! We will do our best to minimize disruptions, construction dust, travel delays, and construction noise - but please realize there will be some inconveniences at times.

I encourage feedback from you: both what we’re doing well, and areas where we can improve. We work closely with all of our construction partners, and constantly share with them our job site observations, as well as your feedback.

MOST importantly - I am asking for your patience.

Speaking of Construction...

In 2016, a number of construction projects will be underway.

Lake Michigan Water System Improvements

- Areas currently on private wells will see the installation of a water main. These streets include Lindenhurst Drive, Old Elm Road, Woodlane Drive, Thornwood Drive (Sand Lake Road to Beck Road), Briar Lane, Countryside Lane to Burr Oak Lane, Ridgeland Drive, and Fairfield Road.
- Installation of large diameter pipe to connect the Village's two water towers will continue in 2016. Areas impacted include Laurel Drive, Witchwood Lane to Rolling Ridge, Rolling Ridge (Witchwood Lane to Sprucewood Lane), Sprucewood Lane (Rolling Ridge Lane to Hickory Drive), Hickory Drive to Hazelwood Drive, Hickory Court, North Beck Road (Grass Lake Road to north of Great Oak Drive), and High Point Drive (High Point Drive south from Beck Road).

Beck Road Improvements

Staring in March, construction of water main improvements in the northern section of Beck Road will begin. Weather permitting, this work is anticipated to be completed in June. Immediately after the water main work is complete, the reconstruction of Beck Road will begin. This process will involve the complete reconstruction of the northern section of Beck Road (Grass Lake Road to Spring Hill Lane), the resurfacing of the southern section (Spring Hill Lane to Sand Lake Road), and drainage improvements, curb repair and sidewalk installation throughout the project area. This is an estimated $3.8 million improvement project, and the Village has received Federal funding that will cover 80% of the cost. The Village will pay the remaining 20% from the Community Capital Fund. This is a much-needed improvement as the Village has experienced problems with Beck Road for decades. The project will be extremely disruptive, involving periodic road closures and a significant amount of construction activity.

Fairfield Storm Water Improvements

For years, portions of Fairfield Road have experienced chronic flooding issues. As part of the water main project, the Village will be taking steps to improve the situation.

BECK ROAD INFORMATION MEETING

The Village will be holding a public information meeting on the schedule of improvements related to Beck Road sometime in February.

Check the Village website www.lin-denhurstil.org for date and location.
Tree Replacement Program

The Village offers a program to assist residents who wish to plant a tree. Under this 50/50 tree replacement program, the Village will reimburse residents who wish to purchase a new tree for their property or parkway area. The program parameters are as follows:

- Residents will be reimbursed 50% of the cost of a single, acceptable tree, excluding sales tax, delivery, installation, etc. up to $200.
- Program dollars would be dispersed by the Village to the homeowner after the purchase and planting of a new tree.
- Households could participate once per year.
- Residents can submit a receipt to Village Hall for reimbursement.
- First come, first serve basis as budgeted funds are available.
- A list of acceptable trees is available on the Village website.

Shoreline Stabilization Program

The Village offers a lakeshore stabilization program for residents who own lakeshore property. Through this program, the Village will reimburse residents who plant acceptable shrubs and plantings that help to preserve the shoreline and water quality of the lakes. The list of acceptable plantings is taken from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. This list is also located at www.lindenhurstlakes.com. Other guidelines include the following:

- First come, first serve basis as budgeted funds are available.
- Eligible residents may be reimbursed 50% of their expenditure up to $100.
- Residents must submit a receipt to Village Hall that itemizes the acceptable purchase.
- A list of acceptable plantings is available on the Village website www.lindenhurstil.org.

Utility Bill Payment Options

Residents can take advantage of the Village's on-line utility bill system, at no additional cost. Residents can use the My Utility Account to pay their utility bill, view the bill or receive paperless billing through the e-bill program. To register, visit www.lindenhurstil.org and select the link “pay utilities” on the homepage. Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit cards are all accepted.

Or, residents can download the Village of Lindenhurst app on iTunes or Google Play. Please contact Village Hall at (847) 356-8252 if you have any questions about on-line utility bill payments.

VILLAGE CODE REMINDER: Snowmobile Regulations

- Snowmobiles can only be operated on private property with the permission of the owner.
- Snowmobiles are not permitted on any public right of way or roadway, school grounds, Village or Park District property.
- Special rules apply for Lake Linden and snowmobile equipment requirements. Please call the Village Hall at (847) 356-8252 for more information.

Winter is Here...

Which means it’s time to remove snow. Please remember that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) plows Grand Avenue and Route 45, and the Lake County Department of Transportation plows Sand Lake, Gelden and Grass Lake roads. All other public roads in Lindenhurst are maintained by Village snow removal crews.

Snowfall parking restrictions: To assist our snow plow crews, there is no parking on any Village street when there is 1” or more of accumulated snow. The restriction applies until the streets have been cleared of snow. Violators may be towed. And please don’t deposit additional snow onto the roadway from your shoveling or snow-blowing efforts. Following this procedure allows snow plow operators to quickly and efficiently remove snow.

Road Hazards: Though basketball nets are never allowed adjacent to our roadways, they pose a particular hazard to our plow drivers as they clear our streets. Please store them appropriately year around.
Shoveling Safely

As a reminder, please be courteous to your neighbors and entire community by shoveling the sidewalk in front of and near your house. Students and parents may need to use the sidewalk to safely walk to the school bus stop. Residents may also want to walk dogs, and in general, safely traverse from their house to their destination.

When you are shoveling, please be cautious and exercise proper ergonomics. According to the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, you should squat with your legs apart, knees bent, and back straight; lift with your legs and do not bend at the waist. Consider a shovel with a plastic blade instead of metal so it’s lighter weight. Push the snow - don’t lift it. You may also want to warm up prior to shoveling, just as you would for any exercise. If possible, consider using a snow blower. If at any time you experience pain, stop your activity.

Ice and Ice Fishing Safety Tips

Remember in the winter, moving ice can damage docks. Damaged and unrepaired docks are unsightly and unsafe. Docks and piers should be maintained in a manner so they remain safe and are not hazardous to the environment or individuals using the lakes. Lindenhurst’s lakes have great year-round fishing. You can catch bluegill, largemouth bass, tiger muskie and channel catfish. Ordinances are the same for ice fishing as they are for warm weather fishing:

- Lake use is only for residents and their accompanied guests
- No bait fish (minnows) allowed
- Catch and release (except for bluegill – 25 per day)

Heed these safety precautions when fishing on ice:

- Pay attention to the color of the ice; clear blue lake ice is the strongest
- Cloudy, opaque ice holds the least amount of weight
- Before going out onto the ice, walk along the shore in the area that you plan to fish to check for open water areas and areas of thin ice
- Wear a personal flotation device
- Always travel with others, preferably experienced ice fishermen