Public Safety Officials encourage residents to sign up for the free service that provides Emergency Responders with more information in the event of an emergency.

Smart911 saves critical time in an emergency and has proven to save lives nationwide. The additional information provided in a Smart911 Safety Profile enables emergency responders to know exactly where they are going and who they are looking for in a house fire, or at the scene of a vehicle accident; those details can help quicken their response time.

Smart911 allows residents to create a Safety Profile on-line at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com) for their entire household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 telecommunicators and response teams to have in the event of an emergency. When a citizen makes an emergency call, their Safety Profile is automatically displayed to the 9-1-1 telecommunicator, allowing them to send the right response teams to the right location with the right information.

“Residents that create a Safety Profile will be better prepared in all towns and counties across the country that support Smart911,” said Lindenhurst Police Chief Thomas Jones. “The Safety Profile travels with you, and the additional information provided allows public safety dispatchers to send the right response teams faster.”

With Smart911, citizens can link both home and work addresses to mobile phones, which can be passed on to responders in the field for more a detailed, rapid response. Additional information including pets in the home, vehicle details in the event of an accident, and even emergency contacts can all be included in a Safety Profile. All information is optional, and the citizen has the ability to choose what details they would like to include.

The benefits of this information on a 9-1-1 call from a cell phone are immeasurable. Mobile phones do not provide an address to the 9-1-1 telecommunicator. These emergency situations are often the worst of a person’s life, and the Safety Profile can speak for you when you might be unable.

Smart911 is currently available in 40 states and more than 1,500 municipalities across the country, and has been credited with positively impacting emergency outcomes. In the case of one missing child, the girl’s photo and physical description were immediately available to 9-1-1 telecommunicators and responders. For one heart attack victim, an address and medical notes allowed responders to be dispatched to his location quickly.

Residents are encouraged to create their Safety Profile with Smart911 today, making their information immediately available to 9-1-1, and to receive emergency notifications. Smart911 is private and secure, is only used for emergency responses, and only made available to the 9-1-1 system in the event of an emergency call.
**From the Mayor’s Desk**

**2018: Year in Review**

2018 was another successful year for the Village. We started and/or completed many of the initiatives we prioritized and approved as part of our budget process for this fiscal year (May 1st – April 30th). Some noteworthy accomplishments include:

- 2 new full-time police officers were hired and trained.
- Remodeling of the police station was completed. HVAC systems were upgraded, and updating to the booking and officers’ work areas were completed.
- ERIN (Elderly Residents In Need) program was launched by the police department, in conjunction with a number of resident volunteers. This program received the 1st Place Innovation Award by the Lake County Municipal League.
- The E-Citation system was implemented. This electronic ticketing system provides efficiencies and improves the safety of our police officers.
- The BEAST is slated for installation: a barcoded evidence tracking system which will greatly improve police department efficiencies.
- Our 1st Citizens’ Academy was completed, graduating 12 residents. Plans are underway for our 2nd Citizens’ Academy, which will be scheduled in 2019.
- Our resident survey was sent out to 2000 households; 350 households returned their surveys. We received great feedback - things we do well and things we need to improve. This feedback will be used in our budget prioritization process.
- The NIXLE service was implemented. Residents can sign up for the service to receive Village alerts via text messages or emails.
- External auditors completed another annual audit of the Village’s finances. The auditors found no issues with our financial processes.
- A review of our water mains were completed by a third-party firm. Their review identified a few minor water main leaks, which were prioritized and repaired before any minor leak became major, preventing any service outage.
- A review was completed by a third-party company on our Village streets. Using technology, this pavement management system measures a number of factors about our 94 lane-miles of Village streets. We will be receiving 1 terabyte (1 trillion characters) of information, which will be used to prioritize future street repairs and resurfacing.
- Village employees completed Customer Service training sessions, to better serve our residents.
- We completed our biennial street resurfacing project.
- The Village Board voted to cancel the annual 2% automatic increase to water and sewer rates for the 2018-19 budget. Therefore, the rates residents and businesses pay for water and sewer remained the same from the previous year.

The above items are some, but not all, of our accomplishments for calendar year 2018. Thank you for your patience during these projects; it is much appreciated.

2019 is shaping up to be another exciting year, as well. We plan to continue to work with existing businesses, while pursuing new businesses for our community. And as I’ve mentioned in previous editions, work will continue on the Millburn Bypass and the Grand Avenue Construction projects.

Please know that we continue and will continue to use your hard-earned dollars as efficiently and effectively as possible for every task the Village undertakes.

Wishing you and yours a healthy and fulfilling 2019!

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**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 also remove your garbage cans from the roadside as soon as possible; do not place in the roadway, and leave out no earlier than 6PM the night before pick-up.
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 or view their utility bill. To register, visit www.lindenhurstil.org and select the link “pay utilities” on the homepage. Visa, Mastercard and Discover credit cards are all accepted. To receive paperless billing through the e-bill program, contact the Village Hall at (847) 356-8252. Or, residents can download the Village of Lindenhurst app on iTunes or Google Play.

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-served basis as budgeted funds are available
- Residents must submit a receipt to Village Hall that itemizes the acceptable purchase
- A list of acceptable trees is available on the Village website

Shoreline Stabilization Program
The Village offers a lake-shore stabilization program for residents who own lake-shore 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-served 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 shrubs and plantings is available on the Village website www.lindenhurstil.org.

Living with Wildlife: Coyotes (courtesy of lcfpd.org)

Human development in urban areas has replaced natural areas that were once habitat for wildlife. Open fields, forests and wetlands have been replaced by lawns, gardens and neighborhoods. Many animals are adapting to this new environment, sometimes at the expense of their human neighbors, by creating a disturbance or causing damage to property.

The best way to prevent common wildlife issues is to avoid providing them potential sources for food and shelter. Following are recommendations for how to prevent common wildlife conflicts:

- Do not encourage wildlife to come in or near your home by feeding them.
- Keep pet food and water dishes indoors.
- Turn on outside lights, make noise and observe the area for any signs of wildlife before letting your pet outdoors.
- Do not allow spilled seed to accumulate around bird feeders.
- If possible, do not keep garbage cans outside.
- Keep grills and barbecues clean.

Coyotes cannot tell the difference between their natural prey and pets. Therefore, they have been known to occasionally prey on cats. Coyotes, which are dogs themselves, do not think of dogs as prey and usually will not attack a dog for food. However, coyotes do view dogs as competition for territory, food and mates. Therefore, if a dog is within a coyote’s territory, the coyotes will attack it if they are unable to chase it away. If you are approached by a coyote or it comes into your yard, scare it away by shouting at it and waving your arms over your head. These actions will reinforce the coyote’s natural fear of people, and teach it that your yard is not available territory.

Even though it may be tempting to trap and remove a nuisance animal, removal typically does not provide a permanent solution. Trapping and removing animals only creates an opening for another animal to occupy. The best solution is to focus on removing the attraction, not the animal. (Please remember that it is illegal for homeowners to discharge any type of projectile weapon or firearm within Village limits.) Coyotes play an important role in maintaining healthy ecosystems and species diversity. By preying on smaller predator species, coyotes also help protect our bird populations.

Lake County organizations and HOAs can book a free informational presentation about coyotes, or request a brochure by contacting Lake County Forest Preserves’ Public Affairs office at 847-367-6640, or e-mailing afrederick@lcfpd.org.
SWALCO would like to introduce the latest guidelines for “Recycling Right” in our Lake County community.

Please look left to learn if you are recycling correctly. Find a place to keep these tips handy... perhaps they’ll adorn the front of your fridge. Share them with neighbors, family and friends who are residents of Lake County.

You’ll see SWALCO moved to a simpler format: clear YES and NO sections, with visual lists of accepted and not accepted items and guidelines for processing. Please take a special look at the NO list, as these contaminants can negatively impact recycling efforts in so many different ways. It’s estimated that as many as one in four items placed in a recycling cart, is not accepted for recycling.

It’s a great time to review, reconnect and make sure you’re getting all of the right things in, and keeping the wrong things out. Through swalco.org, you will find alternative recycling and reuse opportunities for some of those NO items. Take advantage of local programs or opportunities in our community.

There are so many reasons to recycle more. Recycling matters because the more we recycle, the more we save. Our resources last longer and go farther with future generations in mind. When we recycle, we’re not extracting precious and fresh materials from the Earth whenever we want to make something. Through recycling, we have an abundant supply of resources at hand. Recycling preserves landfill space and reduces the need for landfills. By recycling, we save energy, prevent water, land and air pollution, reduce carbon emissions, protect wildlife and wildlife habitat, as well as create jobs and help the economy.

Think you can’t make a difference? You can!!! Each and every one of us can. A family of four can minimize waste by more than two tons each year just by the easy task of recycling. Take the pledge to reduce waste, buy products made with recycled content, and recycle right/recycle more! Make a difference in our community, and our beautiful planet.