

HAPPY FALL Y'ALL



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Chief of Police

JAMES RITZ

708-839-2732

Public Works Director

KEITH GRANTLAND

708-839-3027

Building Commissioner

BRUCE ZARTLER

708-467-3700

VOTER INFORMATION



Voter Registration — Available online and in-person

Cook County and the State of Illinois offer several options to register to vote for the November 3 Presidential Election. In-person voter registration is open until Tuesday, October 6. You may register to vote online at ova.elections.il.gov until October 18. In-person grace period registration will begin October 7. To register during the grace period, you must visit an early-voting location and be prepared to vote immediately after registering. Grace period registration continues until Monday, November 2.

Early Voting

Early Voting will begin on Monday, October 19 and run through Monday, November 2. Voters do not need to provide an excuse or reason why they cannot make it to the polls on Election Day. A government-issued photo ID is not required but is helpful if there is a question about the voter's registration, address, or signature. The closest early voting location is at the **Hodgkins Village Hall** located at 8990 Lyons Street in Hodgkins, IL 60525. The hours are weekdays, Monday through Friday, October 19 to November 2 from 8:30 am - 7:00 pm, and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The Willow Springs Village Hall is **not** an early-voting site. Additional early voting sites can be found by visiting www.cookcountyclerk.com.

Vote by Mail

Any registered suburban Cook County voter may apply for a mail ballot; it is not necessary to provide a reason. To obtain an absentee mail application, visit www.cookcountyclerk.com to have one mailed to you. Once an application has been submitted to Cook County, a ballot will be mailed to your designated address. The last day to request a mail ballot is Thursday, October 29, and **completed ballots must be postmarked by Tuesday, November 3.**

Please note that the U.S. Postal Service recommends requesting your mail ballot as soon as possible to account for any delays in the mail system.

Verifying Voter Registration & Polling Place

To verify your registration, find out where your polling place is, and see a sample ballot, visit www.cookcountyclerk.com and enter your home address under "Your Voter Information."



POLICE DEPARTMENT

CRIME BLOTTER:

The outstanding efforts of the WSPD Criminal Investigations Unit culminated in the arrest of a 20-year old subject from Chicago, IL for the armed robbery which occurred at our 7-Eleven in June of this year.

After continuous follow through of generated leads throughout the investigation, the WSPD Criminal Investigations Unit learned of a possible location of the offender in the City of Chicago. With the assistance of our local Major Crimes Assistance Team (MCAT), the individual was taken into custody without incident at a residence . The subject was eventually charged with one count of armed robbery. *Great work by the Investigations Unit!*

CRISIS INTERVENTION AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM

The Willow Springs Police Department's Crisis Intervention and Domestic Violence Prevention Program was developed to provide our residents with an intervention and prevention initiative to support the "quality of life issues" that families are experiencing. The department CIT coordinator is available for screening, and providing community referrals for any issues related to mental health, domestic violence disturbances, substance abuse, and behavioral health crisis.

Since the start of this program in early springs, the department has received tremendous program feedback, such as:

"Pleasantly surprised by this service and many thanks for the concern."

"I knew Willow Springs was a great place to live, and you made it even better with your help!"

"We appreciate your kindness and respect for our family"

Please contact the Willow Springs Police Department for further information.

"OPERATION HELPING HEROES" GRANT AWARD



The Willow Springs Police Department received an "Operation Helping Heroes" Grant Award through Country Financial Insurance. Insurance Agent Arturo Zarco, accompanied by officers of the Willow Springs Police Department, presented the grant award in the amount of \$1500.00 to the department on September 17, 2020. The award will be put to great use for the purchase of new Radar equipment for the department's Traffic Unit. *Thank you Country Financial and Insurance Agent Arturo Zarco!*



***Season's Greetings from the
Willow Springs Police Department
"Shop With a Cop 2020"***



The Willow Springs Police Department is organizing its 2020 "Shop With a Cop" event to benefit Willow Springs Children and families who need a little more assistance than us to enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday. The children will be shopping with Willow Springs Police Officers and do their holiday shopping at the local Walmart store in Hodgkins, IL .

We are reaching out for donation assistance from individuals and local businesses to support this Christmas event for many deserving children. A full sponsorship donation for a child would be \$100.00, however any donated amount would be truly appreciated.

This year's "Shop With a Cop" event will be held at Walmart on Saturday, December 12, 2020 from 9:30am to 11:30am.

If you would like to make a donation to help us make Christmas a very memorable experience for many deserving children, please drop off your donations to the Willow Springs Police Department or at the Willow Springs Village Hall. If donating by check, make your checks payable to "Village of Willow Springs" and in the memo note "Shop With a Cop 2020."

Thank you very much for your kind support of the Willow Springs Police Department's "Shop With a Cop" event.

POLICE APPRECIATION RESOLUTION and "ADOPTING THE WILLOW SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT"

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Trustee Mike Kennedy, Jan Posch, and our community supporters, the "Adopt-A-Police Department" campaign has been launched. The Willow Springs Police Department staff is honored and very proud to be recognized and "Adopted" by the Village of Willow Springs community. The Village Board also supported such efforts by adopting and approving a Resolution naming the month of October "Police Appreciation" month.

This outstanding show of appreciation will be shown on October 19th with a Flag presentation by resident Larry Walsh. Mr. Walsh is generously constructing and dedicating a Blue American Flag to the Willow Springs Police Department to honorably display in recognition of Police Appreciation month. The "Adopt-A-Police-Department" coordinators are also having a barbeque for all the department personnel on this day between 4:30 to 7:30pm.

On behalf of the Willow Springs Police Department, we thank the Village Board and our Willow Springs community for your tremendous support.

GOD BLESS AND STAY SAFE!

Show support for our police officers by turning your porch light blue for the month of October. To make a contribution to police officers goodie bags, stop by the police department with a bag of candy, hats or gloves.

BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Just as beautiful flowers bloomed throughout the Village this spring, projects undertaken by the Beautification Commission were evident all around.

A grant from the Main Street Association of Realtors, with the guidance of Christina Andino of the Jasinski Team of Baird and Warner, made possible the enhancement of the bus stop located at Archer and Willow Springs Roads, which began in the fall. On October 26, 2019, fifteen community volunteers met at the bus stop and followed a design created by Willow Springs' landscape architect Larry Walsh that included leveling the hard soil and adding three tons of dirt to facilitate planting the bushes and hostas. The finishing stage involved Larry designing and constructing a Little Free Library in the image of the bus stop installed for residents to share books. The library has been registered as an official Little Free Library entering it on a map of stewards and offering tips on how to make it a vital part of our community. Residents can enjoy the newly-planted area as they travel past the corner, and perhaps stop by to share books for the enjoyment of community members.

Recently, Barberry bushes were removed from the bus stop location and replaced with ornamental grasses. The bushes were made available to residents and were promptly scooped up. In addition, grasses were planted to surround the Willow Springs sign at Willow Springs Road and Archer.

A second project also funded by the Main Street Association of Realtors is the Legacy Garden Park created on a lot donated to the Village at 105 Kazwell. Twenty 4' by 8' garden plots, including four plots designated for handicapped accessibility were installed. The composite plots were placed on the lot which was graded and prepared by Commissioner Jason Buege's company, Streamline Landscaping. Benches, a walking path, a bench for picnicking gardeners and a butterfly garden created by Commissioner Jamie McDaniel were added. Sixteen plots were rented by residents for their enjoyment during the gardening season.

The Commission invited the community to join them for the dedication of the Legacy Garden Park on Wednesday, July 22, followed by the dedication of the renovated historic bus stop. Many residents attended to celebrate these wonderful additions to our Village for the enjoyment of all.

The Commission was pleased to underwrite the cost of flowers planted throughout the Village for the enjoyment of all who travel through Willow Springs and to enhance our nomination for the Illinois State Governors Award.



On October 3, Commissioner Lucy Mierop, owner of Re/Max Market, will host an Oktoberfest celebration from 11am until 3pm at 8728 S Archer, Willow Springs, with proceeds benefiting the Beautification Commission. Please join us for German-themed food, fun and entertainment!

The Commission thanks the community for its continued support. Please know that donations and ideas are always welcome.

Thanks also to Commissioners Linda Arra, Jason Buege, Niki Chibucos, Robert Curran, Jamie McDaniel, Lucy Mierop, Commission Chair Jan Posch and Trustee Melissa Neddermeyer.

PUBLIC WORKS

2020 No “Sheltering” For Public Works:

Spring, summer and now fall, our crews have worked non-stop and were busier than ever, removing dead brush and trees, manicuring street corners, easements and clearings, and cleaning up after the spring/summer storm damage and flooding.

Branch chipping began early in 2020 due to limited snowfall which also led to early mowing, weeding, planting and sodding. Public Works planted flowers along community spaces and subdivision entrances. We also prepared the grounds at the new “Legacy Park,” the site of Village’s community garden on Kazwell Street by removing dead trees, adding garden boxes, fencing, bench seating, and signs. The large rock marking the entrance to the Village Center on Archer, west of Willow Springs road was enhanced to include a new fence and lights.

Public Works North/South Garage Project:

The north garage was organized and equipped to serve as a full-fledged vehicle maintenance shop where our lead mechanic, John DeHaan, can efficiently repair the Village’s vehicles. The south garage has been repurposed to store all ground keeping vehicles, equipment and tools.

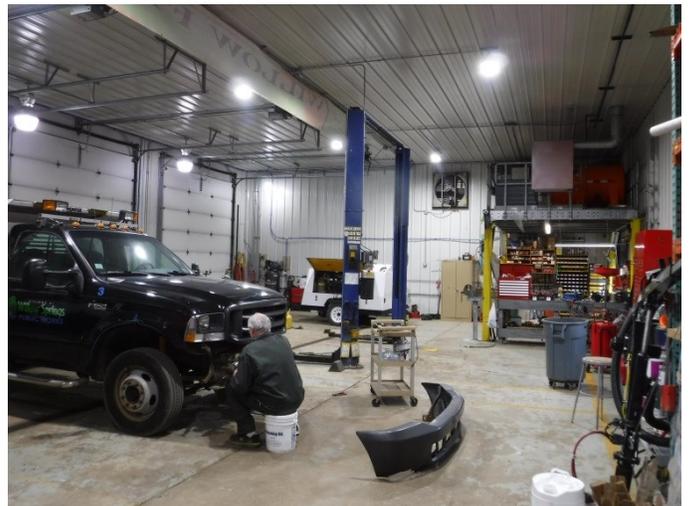
The garage renovations, including cleaning, restoration, and repair of equipment were successfully completed by our own crew without outside contracts or additional funding. Painting was completed by Marijo Kristie and Charlie, our two skilled painters. Inventory, barcoding and filing were conducted by Kevin and database entries were input by Mary O’Heron. Keith Grantland installed LED lights in north garage for increased visibility. A huge vehicle lift was transported from the south garage and installed in the north garage under the assistant director’s guidance.

Congratulations!

Steven Werner has been promoted to Assistant Director of Public Works this past August and Victor Juskus has been promoted to full time status.



Vic, Steve and Kevin (l to r) in South Garage



John DeHaan in North Garage

Reminder(s):

Do not pile leaves, branches, pine needles or grass clippings on storm sewer inlets and grates. Also, refrain from clogging pipes and toilets with paper towels, diapers, sanitary products and destroying pipes and drains with harmful chemicals (motor oil, antifreeze, strong cleaning solutions). If in doubt, please call Public Works, and let us know immediately if you are having any drainage/sewer problems, so we can come out to inspect. The closest Household Hazardous Waste facility open to Illinois residents is located in Naperville 156 Fort Hill Drive (Next to Naperville Public Works), DuPage County, www.naperville.il.us/hhw.aspx.

Happy Halloween!!

Information and Safety Tips...



Although traditional trick-or-treating will look different this year due to distancing concerns with COVID-19, the Village still anticipates having regular trick or-treat hours, which run from **2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 31**. While we all work towards determining a prudent avenue for trick-or-treating this year, please

consider these safety measures.

- Please use the flyer provided in this newsletter to indicate if you are participating in trick-or-treating this year or not. Post the sign in a window. Green side out tells the trick-or-treaters you are welcoming them this year. Red sign out means you prefer not to participate this year. If no sign is displayed, it is assumed you're not participating.
- CDC guidelines suggest participating in one-way trick or treating where individually wrapped goodie bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard.) If you are preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing the bags.
- Do not participate in trick-or-treating if you feel unwell. if you are awaiting COVID-19 test results if you have recently returned from a state on the Suburban Cook County Travel Quarantine List or if you know that you have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- Face masks (exclusive of Halloween masks) should be worn at all times, including by those handing out treats. Consider creative ways to incorporate face masks into costumes.
- Maintain social distancing.
- Only eat unopened candies and treats that are in original wrappers.
- Check out all treats at home in a well-lit area.
- Do not enter any houses.
- Make sure costumes are flame-retardant.
- Keep costumes short to prevent falls.
- Respect others and their property.
- Have fun!!

**Wicked Willow will
resume in 2021!**



**YES TRICK
OR TREAT**

WELCOME



VILLAGE OF WILLOW SPRINGS

**NO TRICK
OR TREATING**

SORRY!



VILLAGE OF WILLOW SPRINGS

For more information visit the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Land Pollution and Waste Disposal Fact Page for Citizens at www2.illinois.gov/epa/citizens/Pages/land-pollution-and-waste-disposal .

Tip: Latex paint is not a hazardous material. To discard leftover latex paint in the trash, first dry paint with lid off and add an absorbent such as cat litter or saw dust. Leave the lid off, so Roy Strom collectors can tell paint is dry).



A new submersible sewage pump gets installed by Keith and John at the Renaissance Lift Station in March

2020 Road Project

We are pleased to announce that construction to repair the following streets will start this fall:

North of the River:

87th Street near Wolf Rd.

Candlelight Drive East and West

South of the River:

Forest Ave. from 87th Street to Walnut

Prospect Ave. from Cliff St. to Oakwood

Closing Note:

We hope you continue to enjoy the Village's public space, and remember to utilize garbage and dog waste receptacles. Please do not hesitate to contact Public Works at 708 839-3027 or e-mail Public Works director KeithGrantland at kgrantland@willowsprings-il.gov.

Branch Chipping (Regular Pick-up Starts in May and closes mid or late fall in order to winterize and change equipment for the winter season)

Bundle branches (no tree limbs or large branches) measuring no more than 6 ft. by 3" in diameter in the easement of your property with the butt end of the branches facing the street.

Schedule:

South of river: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month North of river: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month

Leaf Collection (Regular Pick-up will start October 26 and end in December or around the first snow fall)

Pile leaves in the easement of your property avoiding the street. Inquiries about branch/leaf pickup should be directed to the Public Works department at 708-839-3027.

Note:

Keep branches off street. Don't mix yard waste with branches. Avoid creating large piles of leaves which can obstruct a vehicle/pedestrian's vision and pathway. Weather conditions may delay service, but will resumed at the next scheduled pick-up or sooner.

Strom Yard Waste Collection Service (April 1-December 31)

Bag yard waste (grass clippings, weeds, leaves, brush material, plants, pinecones, branches) not to exceed 32 gallons or 50 pounds into brown paper bags designed for yard waste available at many stores including Home Depot, Jewel, Menards, Target, Wal-Mart (no plastic bags or personal containers allowed).

Attach a yellow Roy Strom yard waste sticker to the yard waste bag. Stickers are available at the Village Hall for a cost of \$2.50 each. Set the yard waste bag at the curb by 6 am on your designated garbage pick-up day.

Bundle loose branches measuring 4ft by 4" in diameter (not to exceed 50 pounds) un-bagged and tag with a yellow waste yard sticker and set at curb by 6 am of your designated garbage pick-up day.

Strom also offers 96 gallon yard waste carts that you can rent to utilize alone or in addition to yard waste bags/stickers. The cost of the rental is \$100 per year (4/1-12/31). The waste cart is to be placed at the curb with your garbage to be emptied each week.



TRI-STATE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

TRI-STATE HIRES 7 FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDICS IN 2020

The Fire District hired seven new Firefighter-Paramedics this year. Hiring is based on a competitive testing process. Welcome to the Tri-State Fire Protection District Family

2020 Retirees

Battalion Chief Mark Reynolds, Lieutenant Gary Schluntz, Engineer Mike Stoffle and Engineer Paul Bukowski. Congratulations to this years retirees.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OPEN HOUSE CANCELED

Fire Prevention Week is October 4th through October 10th.

The Fire District has made the difficult decision to cancel the Fire Prevention Week Open House due to health concerns regarding the Corona Virus Covid-19. We hope to see you all next year!

Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!

The Fire Prevention Week 2020 campaign highlights this year's focus on cooking safety and preventing kitchen fires at home. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires.

Keep a close eye on what you're cooking; never leave cooking unattended

Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains at least three feet away from your stovetop.

Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.

Go to www.tristatefd.com for more information



Contact our Fire Prevention Bureau at 630-654-6284
for information on free smoke alarms and free loaner emergency access boxes
We're here to help!

JUSTICE-WILLOW SPRINGS WATER COMMISSION



The Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission is happy to announce that the annual water quality report is now available at www.jswc.org. If you would like to have a hard copy please call our office at 708-458-7010 or stop into the office.

7000 South Archer Road Justice, Illinois 60458



ALL HAIL THE MAIL!



The Village of Willow Springs drop box, located right outside the Village Hall's east doors, now has a supply of envelopes for dropping off payments. You can also drop off paperwork such as permits. This secure box is checked daily!

The United States Postal Service conveniently relocated one of their mailboxes to right outside the Village Hall at the west end of the building. The last pickup of the day will be at 1pm Monday through Saturday.



SENIOR CLUB NEWS

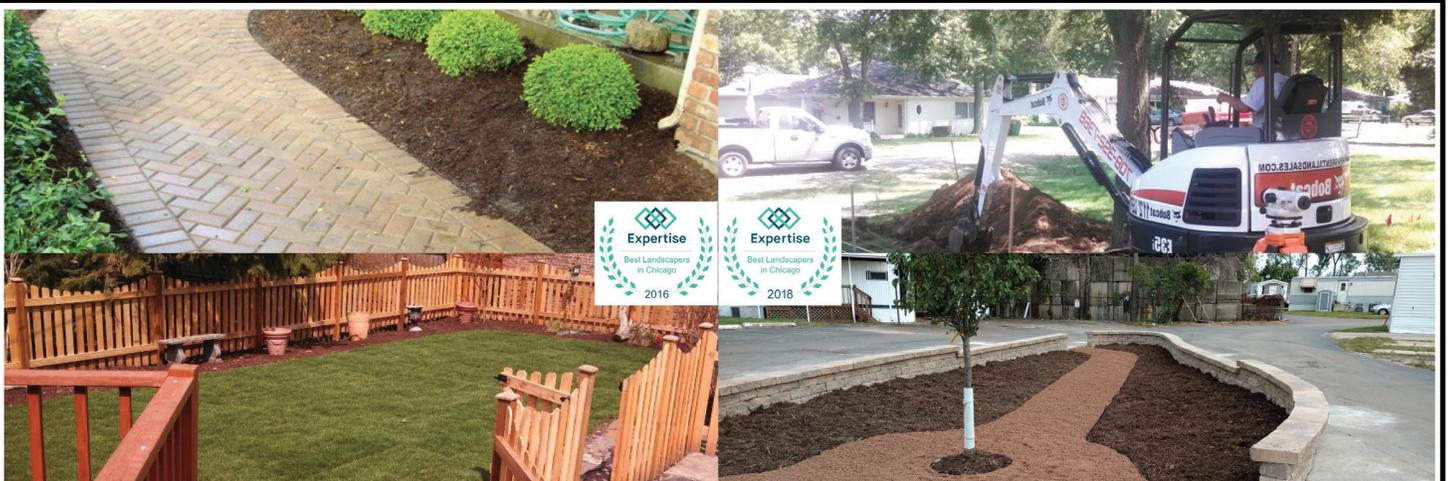
Like many other organizations, the Willow Springs Senior Club has been quarantined since February and our members have been keeping their cell phone providers in business!

Happily on September 15th, we were able to get together for our “picnic in the park” at Lion’s Park to be exact and enjoyed each other’s company, a great lunch with desserts and of course Bingo!

We are hoping to have a meeting in October or November – keeping fingers crossed. We will let you know if we made it, in the next newsletter. If you’re interested in becoming a member, you may contact our Membership Chairperson Lois Leen at 708-214-0877. Take care and be safe!

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

Greetings to everyone! We hope you are all staying safe. We are still continuing our cataloging papers and artifacts. Alice and Eileen have been open every first Saturday of the month. Our displays are being rotated often and some visitors have dropped by to take a look. We post the “Open” sign whenever we are there, so feel free to stop by (with a mask, please.) We would like to thank the Village for giving us a new outdoor sign replacing the disintegrating one. It is gratefully appreciated! We would also wish to extend our condolences to the Carpino family at this time. Always looking for new material and information from the public, so stop by, and when you can, catch us on Facebook! ~ Jean Thode



Streamline Landscaping Inc.

Office: (708) 296-4081

Web: www.streamlinelandscaping.com

Streamline Landscaping has been locally owned and operated since 2004. Let Streamline’s knowledgeable and experienced teams complete your next landscaping project this season!

*Drainage Issue Resolution *Retaining Walls *Patios *Sod/Seed *Design/Install *Land Grading
*Tree Service *Maintenance *Gutter Cleaning *Mulch



**Signed Work Orders
received the same day WITH DEPOSIT
receive 5% off total cost**



COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

COVID-19 TESTING

Anyone who wants to get tested for COVID-19, regardless of symptoms, can do so at any of the state's community based testing sites at no cost. Testing is encouraged for individuals who have been involved in large gatherings. For a list of drive through testing sites, visit <http://dph.illinois.gov/testing>.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Children's Christmas Party will resume in 2021.



OUTSIDE BURNING RESTRICTIONS

The open burning of garbage, refuse, litter, waste paper, cardboard, plastic, landscape waste, leaves, construction debris, treated lumber, pallets, flammable and/or combustible liquids, wet or damp wood and/or unseasoned wood are prohibited. Violators are subject to citations and fines.

Recreational fires using portable fire pits at single family homes and townhomes are permitted as long as they are used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, are not operated within 15 feet of any structures or combustible materials (sheds, fences, etc.) and use only clean, seasoned, dry wood as a fuel source. All recreational fires must be constantly attended and must have a water source or fire extinguisher nearby. Remember to be a good neighbor and watch where smoke is traveling.

STORM DRAIN GRATE/INLET CLEANING

Storm drain grates/inlets are normally located near the edge of streets or in rear yards, collecting water which uses the storm sewer system to ultimately flow into streams, rivers, or lakes. Grates/inlets obstructed with leaves and other debris can deny constant water flow and can cause localized flooding. As leaves begin to fall, the Village encourages residents to safely clear storm sewer grates/inlets near their property to avoid local flooding issues. If a grate/inlet is obstructed, rake the debris off of the structure and onto the parkway or into a waste container. If ponding or another concern arises, contact Public Works 708.839.3027.



CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to newly sworn in Sergeants Jerry Jelinek and Michael Jurak!



Pre-Season High-Efficiency Furnace Sale



American Standard.
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

*We Service and Replace
All Makes and Models.*

RATED #1
IN RELIABILITY

*"Rated #1 in Reliability by
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SPECIAL PRICING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

up to
\$200⁰⁰ Off

**Select American Standard
Equipment. Call for details.**

Hurry limited time offer. Not valid with any other offer. Must mention coupon at time of estimate. During regular business hours only. Limit one coupon per system.

**Professional Furnace
TUNE-UP**

\$70⁰⁰ Always
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Hurry limited time offer. Not valid with any other offer. Must mention coupon at time of appointment. During regular business hours only. Limit one coupon per system.



Veteran & Senior Discounts

D & B

HEATING AND COOLING

(708) 839-0711



The Village Of Willow Springs

One Village Circle, Willow Springs, IL 60480

Phone: 708.467.3700

Fax: 708.467.3710

Web: www.willowsprings-il.gov

E-mail: info@willowsprings-il.gov

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday;

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Every 2nd and 4th Thursday:

9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Village Committee/Board Meetings:

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month,

7 p.m.

Time to respond is running out!
COMPLETE THE 2020 CENSUS NOW

The Census has begun Door-to-Door Enumeration
BUT Remember...

A Census Taker won't show up at your door if you respond now!

You can respond:

1. Online at <https://my2020census.gov/>
2. By phone (844) 330-2020
3. By mail

OK, Let's Count!
Census
2020