

WINTER 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Willow Springs Residents,

January brings an exciting new year. It is also a time to recognize all of the accomplishments of the past year which would not be possible without the teamwork of our dedicated Village Board, Commissions and Staff:

- Increased services to the residents & businesses
- Added community events
- Beautification of Village common areas
- Reduction of Village debt
- No tax increase to taxpayers
- Collaboration with residential and business developments



In looking ahead to 2023, we remain committed to working together to keep the positive momentum going. The Village of Willow Springs is a wonderful community. Please continue to share your ideas and perspectives with us. Look for our new App on your smartphone to stay in touch with all things related to our Village. May you and your loved ones enjoy a happy and healthy new year.

Sincerely yours,
Melissa Neddermeyer
Village President

WILLOW GLEN DEVELOPMENT

The Willow Glen development located at 8900 Archer Avenue now has an onsite leasing office open daily to provide tours and answer any questions you may have. Homes will be available in January for occupancy. Stop in and learn about all that Willow Glen has to offer our community.

<https://livingwillowglen.com/>



VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Village President

MELISSA N. NEDDERMEYER

Village Trustees

TOM ARRA

TERRANCE M. CARR

MICHAEL C. KENNEDY, JR

RICK MIKA

ERNIE MOON

FRED POSCH

Village Administrator

RYAN GRACE

VILLAGE STAFF

708-467-3700

Village Clerk

LORI CHARLES

Finance Director

DAN DENYS

Chief of Police

GARRY MCCARTHY

708-839-2732

Public Works Director

KEITH GRANTLAND

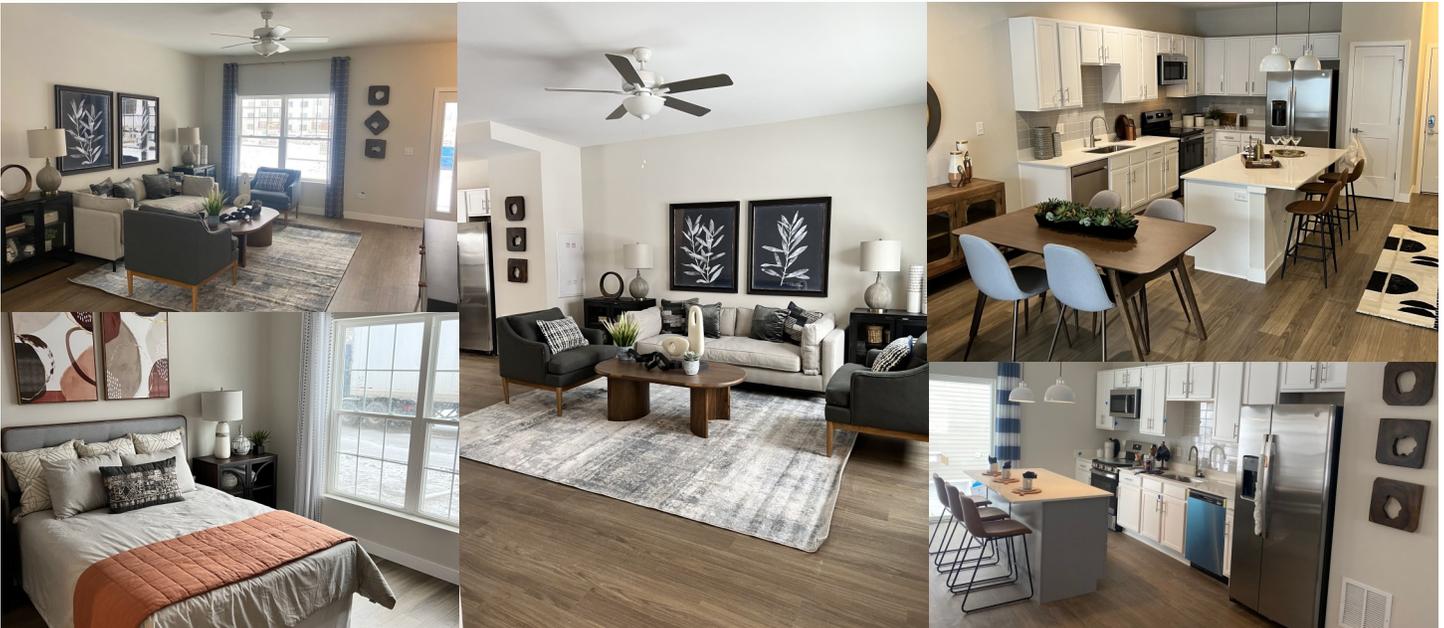
708-839-3027

Building Commissioner

BRUCE ZARTLER

708-467-3700

WILLOW GLEN DEVELOPMENT



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Public works would like to wish everyone a happy new year and a healthy 2023!

As we start 2023 and the snow plowing season, below are a few reminders about snow removal:

- No parking on any Village street after 2 inches of snow.
- Do not shovel snow into the public streets. All shoveled or blown snow should be piled in your yard or parkway. Violators may be ticketed!
- The Village does not plow Archer Ave, Nolton Ave, County Line Rd, German Church Rd, Wolf Rd, or 87th St. on the south side of the river.
- Public works cannot clear private property or driveways.
- It is the responsibility of the homeowner to clear snow from around your mailbox to ensure mail delivery.
- Please make sure fire hydrants are clear of snow and visible in case of emergency.
- It is the responsibility of each homeowner/business owner to keep the sidewalk adjacent to your property shoveled and cleared of ice/snow.
- Plowing will be completed on through streets first, followed by side-streets, cul-de-sacs and then public parking lots, sidewalks and alleys.



Public works picked up leaves for 8 weeks this fall, with about 12 semi loads hauled away, weighing over half a million pounds! Branch pick up is now over until spring unless there is a major storm or high winds necessitating a cleanup.

Once again have a great new year and a safe winter.

Keith Grantland
Director of Public works



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

As we close out 2022, I am happy to report that Willow Springs Police Department is in great shape! It is safe to say that I am adjusting to my new position, and the department is adjusting to me!

We have had a lot of movement within the ranks. In September, we hired a full time officer with the lateral transfer of officer Keith Beausoleil. Keith comes with six years of experience from the Cook County Corrections Department. We also filled the vacant detective position by hiring Tom McNichols. Tom is a great asset to the department, and brings a lot of energy and passion to his position. He is a twenty-one year veteran of the Chicago Police Department, and has hit the ground running, closing a number of investigations in a very short time. Finally, in an ironic, yet fortuitous twist of fate, Police Officer Michele Cipriani left us for another department, creating a vacancy that we were able to fill by rehiring Detective _____ was our liaison with the Drug Enforcement Agency, and resigned a few months ago to work in private industry. This left us with a quandary. Should we fill his position with DEA, and if so, who is qualified for such a position? The problem was quickly resolved when _____ realized that policing is a calling, not a job, and that he wanted to come "home" to Willow Springs Police Department. The timing could not have been better, and _____ has returned to his former position with the Drug Enforcement Agency.

More importantly, the 2023 budget allows for the hiring of an additional full time officer! Thank you Mayor Neddermeyer!!!!

In other news, we had a successful and safe Winterfest, and as I write this, we are preparing for our 2022 "Shop with a Cop" program, which will take place on December 16. We will adopt some children from our community for a few hours and take them shopping for toys.

I hope that everyone has had a blessed and safe holiday season, and that 2023 is better than 2022!

Garry McCarthy

Chief of Police

Willow Springs Police Department

gmccarthy@willowsprings-il.gov



WILLOW SPRINGS LIONESSE CLUB

Happy 2023! Thank you to the community for supporting our recent pancake breakfast fundraiser and congratulations to all of the raffle winners!

We would also like to thank the Beautification Committee for supporting our Flower Power fundraiser.

The Willow Springs Lioness Lions Club is sponsoring a scholarship for a graduating senior or full time college student. Applications need to be submitted by February 18th. Scan the QR code for more information.



We are always looking for new members! Join us on the second Wednesday of the month at the Willow Springs Community Center located at 8156 S Archer starting at 6:00pm. More information can be found on our Facebook and Instagram pages or via email to triezk57@gmail.com.



COMMUNITY EVENTS - WINTERFEST



Willow Springs Winter Fest 2022

SHOP WITH A COP 2022



SAVE THE DATES

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
January	20	Movie	Community Center
January	28	Bingo	Community Center
February	24	Movie	Community Center
March	24	Painting Party (adults only)	Community Center
April	1	Egg Hunt	Lions Park/Willow Park
April	22	Clean Up Willow	Public Works Dept.
May	29	Memorial Day	Archer/Willow Springs Rd.
June	8, 9, 10, 11	Village Wide Garage Sales	Various locations
June	23	Concert in the Park—Strung Out	Lions Park
July	21	Concert in the Park –Fred and Friendz	Lions Park
July	29	Blues Fest	West Metra Lot
August	10	Annual Car Show	Village Center
August	10, 11, 12, 13	Willow Fest	Village Center
August	25	Movie in the Park	Lions Park
September	15	Concert in the Park	Lions Park
October	31	Wicked Willow	Lions Park
November	TBD	Winter Fest	TBD

TOWNSHIP OF LYONS NEWS

The Township of Lyons supervisor's and clerk's office holds numerous events such as Mobile ID and I-CASH program on multiple dates annually. The program enables residents to obtain a new driver's license, an Illinois State ID card, renew their license plates, and have their vision tested. In addition, our residents can make claims to get money back from the Illinois State Treasurer

As a convenience to its residents, notary services are provided by the Supervisor and Clerk's office free of charge to anyone who seeks it. In addition to these events, the Township of Lyons provides various vaccination events which are posted on our website and Facebook page.

For more information, please feel free to contact the Township of Lyons at 708-482-8300 option 4 or on our Facebook page at Township of Lyons Clerk.

Property taxes in Cook County are expensive and confusing. We can help with your specific property tax situation. Our office is available to answer your questions about the property tax process, appeal options and tax saving exemptions. We can research property ownership, sales data, permanent index numbers or tax estimates for new construction. We are first and foremost your local property tax advocate.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

The Willow Springs Historical Society has plans to complete their Civilian Conservation Project!

The society is striving to finish the work that they started in 1994. This C.C.C. Camp #612 was opened in April of 1933. Our work began with our members and members of Chapter #77 alumni cleaning and restoring the area. We then raised money to erect the statue of a young CCC worker and obtained a historical marker for the site. We are now trying to raise money to place educational signage so that people will know the work these fine men performed for our great county will not be forgotten in the future.

We are working to complete this project in 2024 to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corp. To this end, we need your help to finish this project. We would appreciate any donation. Thank you for your support.



BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

Our gardens have been dormant over the winter months, but the Beautification Commissioners have not! We are dreaming of projects to bring exciting enhancements to our Village.

Have you noticed the lovely butterfly mural painted by former Willow Springs' resident Joanne Kubinski at the Legacy Garden Park? It is a wonderful spot for photos at the garden alongside the new gazebo.

Concrete was poured in the fall and the structure will be erected in the spring. This area will provide space for educational programming and respite for visitors or gardeners tending to their garden boxes. These enhancements were funded by the ComEd and Openlands' Green Region Grant program to support the Legacy Garden Park pollinator project. The \$9,040 matching grant was awarded to expand and enhance the Legacy Garden Park at 105 Kazwell Street which was established by the commission in 2019. The butterfly garden will be expanded as a pollinator habitat to support native species, along with adding educational signage. Residents may rent garden boxes for the summer growing season or benefit from programs related to gardening and sustainability. If this is the year you have promised yourself that you will participate in the Legacy Garden Park, please check the Village website for information and an application early in the spring. Information on educational programming can also be found on the website.

Two new little libraries will be installed in the spring. Our thanks to Kiley Mahoney, who undertook this project in fulfillment of the Girl Scout Gold Award. Residents will have the opportunity to share books at five little libraries across the Village.

The commission's brick project, Paving the Way for History, is flourishing with a new delivery of commemorative bricks that were recently installed. There is still time to participate! Please check the Village website or visit Village Hall for an application. Your donation of \$125 secures your place in Willow Springs' history and serves as a fundraiser for further commission projects.

Plans are in the works for a fun-filled evening of bingo and fellowship to welcome in the New Year. Not So Serious Bingo will be held Saturday, January 28 from 7-10 pm at the Community Center. Please mark your calendars for this wonderful kick-off to 2023. See you there!



TRI-STATE FIRE DEPARTMENT

END OF SUPPORT FOR KIDDE RAPID ENTRY BOXES

Kidde has discontinued fabrication and support of the Kidde/Supra series of rapid entry key boxes. Tri-State fire department will no longer be able to replace broken or damaged keys; and currently installed boxes cannot be replaced nor supported. Owners of commercial and residential Kidde/Supra boxes will be required to install a Knox box by June of 2024. Call the Fire Prevention Office for details and information on how we can help with the replacement of the rapid entry key box at 630-654-6284.



VILLAGE OF
Willow Springs

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Willow Springs, IL 60480

Phone: 708.467.3700

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Web: www.willowsprings-il.gov

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Office Hours:

Monday through Friday;

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Village Committee/Board Meetings:

2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.



www.facebook.com/Villageofwillowsprings.il

Village President



Melissa N. Neddermeyer



Tom Arra



Terrance M. Carr



Michael Kennedy Jr.



Rick Mika



Ernie Moon



Fred Posch