

From Mayor Soliman



Dear Residents,

It is my wish that you enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends and that you are truly grateful for all the blessings in your life. I hope that you will attend our fourth annual Winterfest and City tree lighting ceremony that will be held on Saturday, November 30. This will be a fun, family evening with many activities including a visit with Santa Claus, hayrack rides, food, and music for the holiday season.

We welcome Lorena Muniz, Ryan Tetlow, and Bryan Barnes as our new Crest Hill police officers. These three new officers bring the City police force to a total 32 sworn officers. This represents the highest number of sworn police officers in the City's history, and is the recommended number for a city of our size and demographics. We wish them all a long, healthy, and safe career with the City of Crest Hill.

We are also proud and excited to welcome Fuller's Car Wash and Speedway Café to our City. Both new businesses will be a tremendous asset to our City and the Larkin Avenue and Weber Road corridor. We are also looking forward to welcoming many new businesses and employment opportunities to this corridor in the near future.

As we continue to address our long-term, aging infrastructure needs, we most recently installed new water main on Pasadena Avenue from Oakland Avenue to Hawthorne Street, including a complete rehabilitation of the roadway. We also completed the Raynor Avenue/Sullivan court storm water project to help to alleviate surface rainwater and improve drainage in the area. This project was long overdue but will be a tremendous improvement to remove water during heavy rainfalls. We are also proud and excited for the progress made on our new Public Works facility in the 2100 block of Oakland Avenue. This 40,000 square foot facility is long overdue and as our City continues to grow, this modern facility will be a tremendous benefit to our residents and our employees and will grow with us. Due to careful financial planning, this facility will be built without any tax increases to our residents and we are looking forward to a grand opening in the spring of 2020.

We will also once again be mailing a property tax rebate check to those residents who complete the property tax rebate forms that were mailed to each resident and business. Forms must be returned to City Hall by December 2, 2019 to be eligible for a property tax rebate. This will be the seventh year that we will issue the rebate checks, which you should receive around March 17, 2020. This check will be a rebate of 25% of the municipal portion of your property tax bill.

As you are aware, the City of Crest Hill purchased 19 acres of property behind the Crest Hill Library in September of 2018. The City Council and City Staff have been diligently discussing and planning for a new City Hall and a new Police Station on this property. This site will centrally locate municipal services within the City for all of our residents as was recommended by our updated comprehensive plan. We will carefully consider all of our options, be fiscally responsible, and choose the most cost effective option in regards to long term viability for all of our employees and residents. Our hope is to break ground on these new facilities in the spring of 2020. We will be able to build these facilities without any increase in property taxes.

On January 22, 2020, the City will celebrate our 60th Anniversary. I am very proud of the traditions of our past and look forward to a bright and promising future. I wish all of our residents a most joyous and blessed Merry Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year.

As always, I hope that this newsletter is informative to you. I am looking forward to another year of growth and prosperity for the City of Crest Hill that will improve the quality of life for all of our residents and visitors. Please feel free to contact me at (815)741-5123 with any comments or suggestions that you may have.

Raymond R. Soliman

Mayor

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Vicki Hackney
City Clerk
815-741-5100

City Clerk's Office Hours: Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

2020 ANIMAL TAGS

The 2020 Animal Tags will go on sale on Thursday, January 2, 2020. Renewal letters will be mailed to residents during the last week of December 2019. The cost of animal tags is \$5.00 each. Per City Ordinance all residents owning or who have custody of a dog or cat must register the pet with the City Clerk's Office. There is a restriction on the number of dogs and cats allowed per residence. Per ordinance there should not be more than a combined total of four dogs and/or cats at a single property at any time.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter Registration is available through the City Clerk's Office. To register, you must be 18 years of age, a resident of Illinois and in the election precinct for 30 days prior to the date of the next election. Two forms of ID are required; one displaying your current name and address and the other to verify your name. For further information regarding other ways to register to vote please contact the Will County Clerk's Office at (815) 740-4620.

MEDICATION DROP OFF BOX

Residents may drop off their unwanted prescription medications in the Green Drop Box located in the main entrance of City Hall between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please black out any personal information on the containers before dropping them in the bin. Acceptable items are prescription medications, vitamins and pet medications. Non-Acceptable items are sharpies (needles), aerosol canisters and inhalers.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT IN MOTION

Scott R. McMaster
Community Development Director
815-741-5107

IT MAY BE WINTER BUT DEVELOPMENT IS BLOOMING

If you have been up and down Weber Road in the last couple of months, you have certainly seen some new construction happening. The new Speedway is now open for business on Weber Road and Patrick Drive. There is more than just fuel for your vehicle at Speedway. Start your day at Speedway with fresh, hot coffee and breakfast items in the new café that also offers an assortment of goods from refreshing beverages to everyday snacking essential. You can also take advantage of Speedway's video gaming facilities.

If the fall and winter weather has dirtied your car or truck, don't fret. Just run it through Crest Hill's newest, state-of-the-art car wash at Fuller's Car Wash located at 1804 Larkin Avenue near the corner of Plainfield Road and Larkin Avenue. This well established Chicagoland brand offers a \$3 car wash with free vacuums to make your car look like new. Fuller's Crest Hill location is the first in the immediate Joliet area.

LOOK FOR SIGNS

The addition of Speedway and Fuller's Car Wash are just a couple of the exciting happenings in Crest Hill. And the future looks bright! The owners of Hazel Marie's Ice Cream in downtown Plainfield are bringing a sister location to the corner of Plainfield Road and Webb Street. You may have seen the sign for "Goofee G's" coming soon to this site. Currently under development, the owners are hopeful to be serving ice cream here in time for the 2020 summer season.

A flurry of excitement is also anticipated to make some noise this upcoming spring on Weber Road around the library, so stay tuned. . .

4th ANNUAL WINTER FEST

Saturday, November 30th from 4:00-7:00 p.m. marks the 4th Annual Winter Festival held by the City of Crest Hill. Once again, residents are invited to come out to this FREE family event and ring in the holiday season. This year's live entertainment is local band THE JIB BROTHERS. The trio are excited to be a part of this growing seasonal tradition and will be singing holiday favorites. As in year's past, there will be horse and hayrack rides, live reindeer, pony rides, and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus. So bring the family and mingle with local businesses who will be on hand to meet and greet you with all kinds of goodies. This event is made possible in part by this year's sponsors, NuMark Credit Union, Flooring First, Goofee G's, Window World, Remax Ultimate Professionals, Charter Fitness, and American Italian Cultural Society among many others.

Please make sure you support your community by supporting its local small businesses.

FROM THE BLUE LINE

Ed Clark
Chief of Police
815-741-5115

HOLIDAY TRAVEL AND IMPAIRED DRIVING

With the fall and winter Holiday Season fast approaching, Law Enforcement will be focusing their attention on impaired driving. Holiday family gatherings and office parties are a great time to get together but far too often involves drinking and driving. The National Safety Council data on traffic fatalities shows that 28% of all fatal crashes involve impaired driving (Blood Alcohol concentration .08 or above). During the Thanksgiving Holiday period, the percentage increases to 34%. On Christmas Holiday period, the percentage increases to 32%. The National Safety Council estimates that 422 people may die on U.S. roads this Christmas Holiday period.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you are drinking, do not drive. It can only take one drink

to experience impairment. If you see someone else that is impaired, get that person a safe ride home. Use a designated driver when going out to events where alcohol is served. There are so many options (Uber, Lyft) available to ensure we are traveling safely. If you are impaired and caught driving, the Crest Hill Police Department will be happy to give you a ride, but it will not be home.

This year let's do our part to make Holiday travel (and travel in general) safe!

*National Safety Council Injury Facts
Holiday Traffic Fatality Estimate 2018*

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

By enrolling in the Smart Message - Community Alert Network, you can now stay connected by receiving up to the minute Emergency Alerts from the City of Crest Hill regarding immediate or pending threats to public safety or property, where immediate notification is necessary.

Examples include evacuation recommendations, boil orders, water main breaks, and crime alerts.

As a Resident of Crest Hill, you can also elect to receive Announcements, Notices, and Public Safety Non-Emergency information sent to your home phone, work phone, texted to your cell phone, or emailed to you between the hours of 6 am and 9 pm. You can select how you receive the information based on the contact information you provide during the sign up process. Examples include:

- Announcements - May inform you of scheduled water and sewer repairs. Messages may also inform you of scheduled street closures, resurfacing projects, and parking bans.
- Notices - May consist of community information regarding upcoming festivals, changes in garbage pick-up, and community press releases.
- Public Safety Non-Emergency Information - May include messages from local officials with information about crime prevention information, public safety events, neighborhood crime alert information, and fire hydrant testing.

NOTE: This notification system will not notify you of

severe weather that may be near, for that information several other applications are best for you, including television, weather radios and many phone applications.

To sign up, please go to <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736723475#/login>

Click on “sign up” at the bottom of the page

PROTECT YOUR BEST FRIEND

Anyone that has lived in the Chicagoland area for more than a minute knows that the weather here can be extreme at almost any given time. We often joke that we get all four seasons, sometimes on the same day!

Many dog owners love their dogs and want to take them out in their cars, as they drive from place to place running errands. Unfortunately, dogs have died as a result of being left in a car for too long during extreme temperatures. All dogs are different. However, a good rule of thumb is that if it's too cold for you, it is probably too cold for your dog. Illinois has created a law against confining dogs and cats in motor vehicles without proper protection. (510 ILCS 70/7.1) If an officer determines that a dog is in danger, he can break your window to transport the dog to a vet. In that instance, the dog owner would be responsible for repairing his own damaged car, the vet bill, and he could even be charged with a crime.

Protect man's best friend by leaving him at home when the weather is bad. You will both be happier in the end.

CREST HILL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

First year of membership FREE if you sign up by 12/31/19! Join us for monthly luncheons on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 11:30am at Firewater BBQ at 1847 Knapp Rd.

Visit www.cresthillchamber.com for additional information on events and membership or call Chamber President Ryan Linsner at 815-582-4220.

MINIMIZING SKUNK NUISANCES

Illinois is a native habitat to skunks and while they can provide community benefits keeping garden pests at bay, they can become a nuisance when they burrow under porches, dig holes in lawns, and occasionally spray the family pet. In order to minimize skunk nuisances it is recommended that property owners take measures to seal off all foundation openings and use tight-fitting lids to keep skunks out of garbage cans. Residents are encouraged to properly dispose of garbage and debris such as lumber, fence posts, and junk cars that may provide shelter for skunks.

RECYCLING

Recycling is an easy way to make a difference in our community. It's important to know what can be recycled, how it should be treated, and what can't be placed in bins. Your recycling container should only contain cardboard, paper, metal cans, plastic bottles and jugs. All recyclables should be free of food and liquid. Just one dirty bottle or item can contaminate the contents of your recycling container. Once cardboard or paper comes into contact with food or liquid it can no longer be recycled. Don't bag your recyclables. Instead, place them in the recycling container loosely. Plastic bags can get tangled up in the machinery and jam up the whole process. The best thing you can do with grocery bags is return them to the store, don't use them at all, or put them in the trash. To avoid this problem altogether invest in reusable bags. For more information visit www.recyclingsimplified.com.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR – SNOW REMOVAL

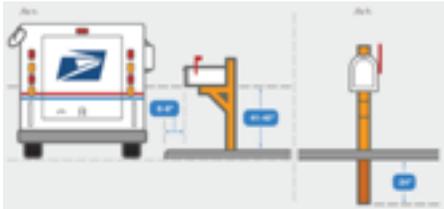
Why Does the Plow Plug Up My Driveway?

Winter weather brings with it a variety of challenges and occasional frustrations. Among those is the fact that snowplows push snow against the curb and into driveway aprons. While unfortunate, this is necessary as plowing requires the snow to move from the center of the road to the curb. Plow trucks cannot turn their blades to avoid driveways as snow will fall back to the center and delay completion in clearing all streets. Please take small quantities of snow on your shovel when clearing the end of your driveway, especially when the snow is wet and heavy.

Clearing Snow for Mail

Clearing snow from the area in front of your mailbox is difficult for the City's large plow trucks. Residents are asked to help by shoveling out the remaining snow so that mail deliveries can continue.

If a mailbox is inadvertently damaged during snowplowing efforts, the City will set a temporary mailbox in its place until permanent repairs are made. The City will determine what condition the mailbox was in prior to it being struck and act accordingly with regard to repair. Mailboxes that are too close to the road or sitting on rotted posts may be the responsibility of the homeowner to repair. The diagram included from USPS.com shows the proper placement of a mailbox at the road. Please report broken mailboxes and / or posts to the Department of Public Works at 815-741-5108.



Fire Hydrants

Please assist the Fire Department by clearing snow from any fire hydrant near your home to maintain access to the water supply in case of a fire.

WINTER DRIVING TIPS

Making Your Vehicle Winter Ready

During the winter your vehicle should be in top condition because if it stalls when you are on the road, you could become involved in a life threatening situation. To minimize the possibility of a break down, winterize your vehicle following the suggested maintenance schedule included in the owner's manual or have your vehicle serviced by a reputable dealer, garage or mechanic.

Because winter is so rough on equipment, you should regularly check the wipers, tires, lights, and fluid levels (radiator, windshield washer, power steering, oil and brakes). Make sure the brakes and transmission are working properly. If you suspect trouble, check it out. It is better to be safe than sorry!

Survival Kit

Your vehicle should be equipped with a winter emergency survival kit. The following items are recommended:

- Ice scraper, snow brush, rags and paper towels.
- Jumper cables, basic tool kit, antifreeze, no-freeze windshield washer fluid and extra drive belt(s).
- Shovel, traction mats or old rugs, tire chains, salt, cat box litter or sand.
- Blankets and extra clothing including hats, socks, waterproof boots, coats and gloves.
- Non-perishable, high-calorie food.
- Candles, waterproof matches and a metal container (coffee can) in which to melt snow into water.
- Flashlight with extra batteries, flares or roadway reflectors.
- A basic first aid kit and a fire extinguisher.
- A cellular telephone with a backup power source might be the single most important safety item available. A citizen's band radio is a good alternative.

City of

CREST HILL

Illinois



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency: Police, Fire or Ambulance DIAL911

Illinois Poison Center	800-222-1222
Police Department (Non-Emergency)	815-741-5115
Fire Department Lockport Plainfield	815-838-3287 815-838-3287 815-936-5335
White Oak Library	815-725-0234
Lockport Park District Crest Hill Office	815-838-3621 815-741-2964
JULIE (Underground Locator)	800-892-0123
ComEd	800-334-7661
Nicor	888-642-6748
AT&T	800-ATT-2020
Comcast	866-594-1234
Allied/Republic Services	815-723-3200
Joliet Animal Control	815-725-0333

WILL COUNTY OFFICES

Will County Land Use Dept.	815-727-8430
Will County Office Building	815-222-5515
Will County Clerk	815-740-4615
Will County Treasurer	815-740-4675
Will County Health Dept.	815-727-8480

SENIOR CITIZENS

Senior Services Center of Will County	800-892-1412
Illinois Dept. on Aging	800-252-8966
Illinois Dept. on Aging (after hours)	800-252-8966
Will County Sheriff's Police TRIAD	815-727-5678
AARP	312-458-3631
Medicare	800-633-4227
SHIP- Senior Health Insurance Program <i>(free consulting for alternative Medicare plans)</i>	800-548-9034

VETERANS

Metro Veteran Center	708-383-3225
Veterans Assistance of Will County	815-740-8389
Hines Hospital	708-202-8387
US Dept. of Veteran's Affairs	800-827-1000



MAYOR
Raymond R. Soliman
815-726-5846

<p>CITY CLERK Vicki Hackney 815-741-5100</p> <p>WARD 1 John Vershay 815-726-4049 Scott Dyke 815-726-7905</p> <p>WARD 2 Claudia Gazal 630-915-7449 Barbara Sklare 815-725-0479</p>	<p>TREASURER Glen Conklin 815-355-1579</p> <p>WARD 3 Tina Oberlin 815-953-4257 Marco Coladipietro 815-940-4156</p> <p>WARD 4 Nate Albert 815-791-7495 Joe Kubol 630-441-8052</p>
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The City Update is published for residents and businesses of the City of Crest Hill. Please address comments to the Office of the City Administrator, City Hall, City of Crest Hill, 1610 Plainfield Road, Crest Hill, IL 60403. Comments can also be sent to webadmin@cityofcresthill.com or you can call 815-741-5100. City Hall hours: M-F 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.