



Crossroads on the Fox

North Aurora Village Hall: 25 East State St., North Aurora, IL 60542
North Aurora Police Dept.: 200 S. Lincolnway, North Aurora, IL 60542
Village Hall Phone: 630-897-8228 / Police Dept. Phone: 630-897-8705
Website: www.northaurora.org

Village of North Aurora

December 2017 / January 2018

Village President - Dale Berman



It's winter! Residents are reminded that it is illegal to park on Village streets after a snowfall of 2 inches or more. This will allow Village snowplows to complete their routes as quickly and safely as possible and will ensure that the entire street gets cleared of snow. It is also illegal for snow to be dumped, shoveled, or blown into the road, as this delays the snow removal process and can cause dangerous situations. Please be sure your mailboxes are installed properly and also remove any portable basketball poles from the curbside to avoid damage by Village snowplows.

Another reminder for residents who intend to be away from home for any extended period of time this winter; please be sure to protect your home from frozen pipes, by keeping the temperature at the minimum of 60 to 65 degrees. Have your home checked regularly by a family member, friend or neighbor. If an issue develops from a water leak due to frozen pipes, attending to it quickly could mean far less damage.

The Village of North Aurora now has a YouTube channel that broadcasts Village Board meetings. This is just another way the Village is providing our residents additional opportunities to obtain current information about the community. Be sure to check out the board meeting videos on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com and search for Village of North Aurora. Residents can also go to our website and click on the link to go directly to the Village's YouTube videos.

Recently I read an article in the Chicago Tribune about municipalities on Lake Michigan water and the dramatically different rates they all experience. This is due to many reasons but the most interesting one to me was the cost of "water loss" being passed on to the residents. A town or city may receive 3 million gallons of their daily allotment from the lake, but residents are only using (metered) less than 2 million gallons. The reason for this approximate 38 - 40% water loss is due mostly to aging infrastructure. These municipalities do not have the funds to replace leaking water mains and service lines so they continue to leak (waste) this valuable resource while their residents pay for it. In some of these towns residents are paying over \$17.00 per thousand gallons of water. Many of them cannot afford to pay their water bills and end up getting their water shut-off.

After reading this article and looking at our water system, I am happy to report that North Aurora water rates have not had an increase since 2010. North Aurora Residents experience one of the lowest water rates in the area. The Village charges a flat rate of \$16.00 for the first 3,000 gallons of water and then \$3.55 per thousand gallons after that. North Aurora's water bills are sent out bi-monthly (every 2 months). A household consuming 12,000 gallons would receive a bi-monthly water bill in the amount of \$47.95 for the water portion of their bill (our water bills also include a sewer maintenance charge calculated at .35 per 1,000 gallons).

We are very proud of the fact that our water loss is as low as 8.46%, calculated over the last 12 months. We calculate "unaccounted for" water every billing period, with some periods being higher, and some periods being a little lower. The average of 8.46% for a 12 month period is a very respectable number. This low average can be attributed to the 20+ years of water main replacement programs, leak detection surveys and our water meter replacement program. All of these efforts to improve service to our residents also increase efficiency, which helps keep costs low. So remember, the next time you turn on that faucet to brush your teeth or get a drink of water, your Village is working hard to keep that water coming to your home and providing it at a reasonable cost to you.

I would like to remind our residents to shop locally in North Aurora during the holidays. Shopping locally benefits our local businesses and gives back to our community. Sales tax revenues make up to 40% of all Village revenues that fund police, public works, community development and Village Hall services. North Aurora is fortunate to have a variety of retail stores, restaurants and service businesses that residents should be proud to patronize. Be sure to check out the Business Directory on our website at www.northaurora.org. Happy Holidays!

Building Department Reminders

For any projects that homeowners may be working on this winter, such as basement remodeling or finishing, electrical or plumbing projects, please be sure to contact the Building Department to apply for the required permits. For any completed projects that have required a building permit, the Village would like to remind residents that the work must be inspected during and after the project has been completed. If you have received a building permit for any project in the past and have not had the work inspected, please call the Community Development Dept. (630) 897-1457 to schedule an inspection. There is no fee associated with the inspection, as long as the work was conducted as part of an approved building permit. Please note, inspections are scheduled a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

Police Department News and Information



The North Aurora Police Department is once again offering the popular “Citizens Police Academy” beginning in February, 2018. After completing the course, citizens will have a better understanding of what police officers do, the challenges of the work, and how they can partner with police to keep our neighborhoods safe. The program covers an overview of our department, police use of force, investigations/evidence, mock calls for service and traffic stops, and more taught by experienced police officers.

Classes will be held on Wednesday nights from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. beginning on February 21, 2018, and will go for 10 weeks. Participants must be 18 years of age and live in the Village of North Aurora. For more information about the program, see our website at www.northaurora.org.

Applications may be picked up at the North Aurora Police Department front desk between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. or online at <http://northaurora.org/forms.aspx>. Any questions about the Citizens Police Academy program can be directed to Officer Robyn Stecklein at (630) 897-8705, ext. 716 or by email: rstecklein@northaurora.org.

Finally, don't forget to bring the kids to our *Visit Santa* event on Saturday, December 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the station, 200 S. Lincolnway, in the community room. Light refreshments will be served (while supplies last) and you can take pictures with Santa using your own camera for no charge.

Public Works News and Information

Holiday Garbage Pick-up: Due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, garbage will be picked one day later, on Saturday, December 30 and Saturday, January 6. There will be no delay due to the Martin Luther King holiday. Christmas trees will be collected until the end of January FREE of charge. Christmas trees cannot be in plastic bags and must be free of all decorations. Trees over 6' need to be cut in half. After the last trash collection in January, any Christmas trees at the curb for pick-up will require one (1) refuse sticker, visibly affixed, to be collected.

Mailboxes: Please be sure that your mailbox is secure and can withstand the pressure of snow coming off the snow plows. If your mailbox is damaged during a snow event, the Village will only repair it if the plow makes contact with the mailbox. If the pressure of the snow coming off the snowplow causes the damage, it will be the responsibility of the Homeowner. If your mailbox is damaged by a Village plow it will be temporarily repaired and replaced with a standard 4x4 post and box in the spring.

Fire Hydrants: Whenever possible, residents are asked to help the North Aurora Fire Department by clearing snow from around the fire hydrant on or near your property.

Snow Removal: Snow removal is based on street usage and levels of traffic.

The following Priority Streets are plowed first: East Side – Banbury, Dee, Hartsfield, Mitchell, Oak Crest, Pine Creek Dr., Sharon, Long and Wingfoot. West Side – Airport, Bennett Dr., Bauer, Juniper, Meade, Oak, Orchard Gateway, Sycamore, Randall, Western, White Oak, Harmony and Timber Oaks Dr.

Secondary Streets are any streets that collect and distribute vehicle traffic between the local street system and priority streets. These are plowed after the priority streets are cleared. Cul-de-sacs, alleys, dead ends and sidewalks will be plowed last, as they are the least traveled.

Village of North Aurora Directory

Village Hall - 630-897-8228 / Monday-Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Website: www.northaurora.org

Elected Officials

Mayor Dale Berman
Trustee Mark Carroll
Trustee Laura Curtis
Trustee Mark Gaffino
Trustee Mark Guethle
Trustee Michael Lowery
Trustee Tao Martinez
Village Clerk Lori Murray

Email Address

dberman@northaurora.org
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mgaffino@northaurora.org
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tmartinez@northaurora.org
lmurray@northaurora.org

Department Heads

Steve Bosco, Administrator
Mike Toth, Community Devel.
Bill Hannah, Finance Director
John Laskowski, Public Works
David Fisher, Chief of Police

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dfisher@northaurora.org

North Aurora Meeting Schedules

Village Board and C.O.W. Meetings are held the first and third Mondays of each Month at 7:00 p.m.
(Please check the Village Website for the most current meeting dates)

December 4 and December 18, 2017
January 15, 2018 (No meeting January 1, 2018)

Plan Commission meetings - 1st Tuesday of the month.
December 5, 2017 and January 2, 2018

All meetings are held at the North Aurora Village Hall, 25 E. State St. North Aurora (unless otherwise posted). All Meeting Agendas are posted on the Village's website: www.northaurora.org.

North Aurora Village Hall Holiday Closures

Monday, December 25 & Tuesday, December 26, 2017
Monday, January 1 & Tuesday, January 2, 2018