

Crossroads

Village of North Aurora Newsletter

2024
June / July



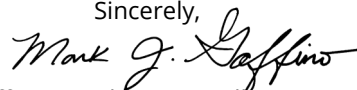
From the Mayor's Desk

Whenever you come and go from North Aurora you may have noticed our Village entryway signs alerting you to when you have entered the Village limits. There are a total of 10 of these signs on roadways around the community and recently the Village has been working to upgrade these locations to make them even more welcoming.

Our Public Works Department has been working to outfit each of the signs with solar power lighting so they are visible in the evening and overnight hours. And alongside the Village's Beautification Committee, we are in the process of planting brand new landscaping at the majority of the locations to provide a beautiful pop of color and greenery. Better yet, all of the plants and shrubbery have been selected as they are salt-resistant and do well with our climate and conditions.

Similar in design to our entryway signs, you may be aware of the Village's Community Sign that sits at the corner of Route 31 and State Street. We use this digital sign to display messages about both Village programs and events as well as those happening throughout the North Aurora community (and if you're a local non-profit visit our website on how to submit content for the sign!). We have heard great feedback from residents as to how useful the sign is and we are excited to announce that we are currently working on the addition of a second Community Sign (tentatively selected for a corner of Oak Street and Randall Road) to help spread our community news even further. And speaking of news you may see on the Community Sign, be sure to pop into Meet with the Mayor on June 15 at Tanner Trails Park from 10:00 am—11:00 am! I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,



Mark Gaffino, North Aurora Village President



Village Calendar

(find details at northaurora.org/events)

June 3: Village Board and COW

June 4: Plan Commission

June 8: Scavenger Hunt Launches

June 10: NA Days Committee

June 15: Meet with the Mayor

June 17: Village Board and COW

June 22: Creativity at the Crossroads

July 1: Scavenger Hunt Ends

July 1: Village Board and COW

July 2: Plan Commission

July 3: Independence Day Fireworks

July 8: NA Days Committee

July 11: Popsicles with the Police

July 15: Village Board and COW

July 19: Movie in the Park

August 1—3: Community Garage Sale

August 2 & 3: North Aurora Days

August 6: National Night Out

Village Hall Closed

July 4: Independence Day



North Aurora Village Hall: 25 E. State St. | 630-897-8228

North Aurora Police: 200 S. Lincolnway | 630-897-8705

Website: www.northaurora.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/villageofnorthaurora

June / July 2024



Arts and Craft Fair Event



Creativity at the Crossroads, the Village's new arts and craft fair, is bursting at the seams with amazing local talent! Come shop **50+** artists' and crafters' wares on **Saturday, June 22, 2024** from **10:00 am—4:00pm** at North Aurora Riverfront Park. Parking for attendees will be available at the park and across the street at North Island Park. A couple food vendors will also be on scene if you get hungry!

Check out the full line-up of artists and food vendors and also any updates on our Village Facebook page event by scanning the QR code to the right! This event is rain or shine!



Village Board

Village Board and COW Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month at 7:00 pm.

Plan Commission meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm.

All meetings are held at the North Aurora Village Hall (unless otherwise posted).

Mayor Mark Gaffino
mgaffino@northaurora.org

Trustee Jason Christiansen
jchristiansen@northaurora.org

Trustee Laura Curtis
lcurtis@northaurora.org

Trustee Mark Guethle
mguethle@northaurora.org

Trustee Michael Lowery
mlowery@northaurora.org

Trustee Todd Niedzwiedz
niedzwiedz@northaurora.org

Trustee Carolyn Bird Salazar
csalazar@northaurora.org

Village Clerk Jessi Watkins
jwatkins@northaurora.org

Village Departments

Steve Bosco, *Village Administrator*
sbosco@northaurora.org

Nathan Darga, *Community Development Director*
ndarga@northaurora.org

Jason Paprocki, *Finance Director*
jpaprocki@northaurora.org

Brian Richter, *Public Works Director*
brichter@northaurora.org

Joe DeLeo, *Police Chief*
jdeleo@northaurora.org

Natalie Stevens, *Community & Board Relations Coordinator*
nstevens@northaurora.org

Mike Toth, *Business & Administrative Services Manager*
mtoth@northaurora.org

Put on your sleuthing cap and get ready to solve riddles! The Village's **fifth annual scavenger hunt** begins on **June 8!** There are guaranteed prizes of \$100, \$75, and \$50 gift cards (any business in town!) awarded to the first three teams to solve the riddles and find all 10 locations throughout North Aurora! Any additional team that completes the event by July 1 will be entered into a raffle for a \$25 gift card prize **and** if we have 25+ teams successfully complete the event we'll draw 2 more random teams for \$25 gift card prizes! Find rules and the first riddle on the Village's website! Good luck, gumshoes!



Public Works News

Holiday Garbage Pickup - Due to the **4th of July holiday**, falling on Thursday there will be **NO** delay in garbage pick-up. There is also **NO** delay due to the Juneteenth holiday on June 19.

Street Infrastructure Projects - Residents can check the Village website at www.northaurora.org for updates on any current road and water construction projects that are ongoing within the Village. For reference, the Village's 2024 Road Program will be taking place primarily in the Oak Hill, Windstone, Fairway View subdivisions and other selected streets including Hickory Lane, Silver Trail, and Harmony Court and will see approximately 3.25 miles of road improvements. Please see our website for the full listing of all streets.

Village Mosquito Spraying has begun throughout the Village to help prevent new breeding sites. Each month the Village will have an **entire application done during the evening hours** as well as treatments of all catch basins and ponds. To report high volumes of mosquitoes or to find out the last time your neighborhood was serviced, please call the **Clarke Mosquito Hotline** at 1-800-942-2555.

Street Lighting - Report streetlight outages to the Public Works Department. Streetlights on wood poles are repaired by Com Ed and can be called into the Village or to Com Ed at 1-800-334-7661. Repair Services wait till they have a handful of calls before they come to service the area so, please contact the Village Hall as soon as one goes out.

Sanitary Sewer - Call the village **FIRST** if you should ever experience a sanitary sewer back up in your home. This will enable the Public Works Department to check the main sewer line for any trouble prior to residents calling a plumber. Calls after hours/weekends should go to the Police Department at 630-897-8705 where they will contact Public Works.

FREE Mulch is available at 314 Butterfield Road. Mulch is available to residents on a first come first serve basis. Please note, all mulch will need to be picked up and loaded by the resident; delivery of mulch is not available.



Free mulch available!

Independence Day Fireworks Celebration!



Who is ready to have a blast at the Village of North Aurora's annual Independence Day Celebration on July 3, 2024? We've got the full scoop below on entertainment, parking and shuttles, food and drinks, and of course the **fireworks!** The event takes place at North Aurora Riverfront Park and starts at 5:00 pm!

Food & Drinks: We're all about the community picnic vibe and we invite the community to bring in their own blankets and chairs, food, grills and /or check out some fantastic local options all within 1-mile walking distance from the event. And for this event it is **bring your own drinks**, which includes alcohol! **REGARDING DROP OFF OF SUPPLIES:** We know folks like to drop things off in the park prior to the event (please note: the Village is not responsible for lost or stolen items), and the Village Hall back parking lot will be available until **4:30 pm for drop-offs only (NO PARKING)** where you can drive in to unload supplies. No vehicles are allowed in the back parking lot after 4:30 pm for the safety of all.

Food Options Within 1-Mile (alphabetical order)

- * A & W Restaurant – 113 S. Lincolnway (0.4 miles)
- * Bruno's Cheesesteaks – 17 S. Lincolnway (0.3 miles)
- * Cream King Ice Cream Truck – on site at park
- * El Coronel – 200 Butterfield Rd. (0.6 miles)
- * Harner's – 10 W. State St. (0.2 miles)
- * Hill's Yum Yum Shop – 200 Butterfield Rd. (0.6 miles)
- * Juqulita's Tacos – 18 W. State St. (0.2 miles)
- * Kappy's - 120 Butterfield Rd. (0.3 miles)
- * Moka Coffee – 24 S. Lincolnway (0.4 miles)
- * 7-Eleven Convenience Store – 2 S. Lincolnway (0.3 miles)

Live Music: From **6:00 pm—9:00 pm** the award-winning party band **Good Clean Fun** will be performing in the park! Good Clean Fun delivers an exciting, engaging show, and features a playlist of party hits that span every decade!

Parking and Shuttles: This year there will be **shuttle service** provided. Shuttles will run from **5:00 pm—11:00 pm** with locations at Blessed Sacrament Church and Schneider Elementary School. Shuttles will run approximately every 15 minutes between locations.

Parking: Parking is available at North Island Park and various Village lots along State Street. This year there is **NO PARKING ALLOWED AT THE ROUTE 31 / STATE STREET LOT**. This area will be for **viewing with pedestrian access only**. Handicap parking will be available at the front Village Hall lot. Please find the parking lot map on the Village website.

Fireworks: And last but not least, the **fireworks!** The fireworks will launch at approximately 9:30 pm! As a reminder, there is **no viewing** from the bridge!

Police News

Popsicles with the Police



Join us for a refreshing community event, Popsicles with the Police, on 7/11/24 from 12:00 pm—2:00 pm at NA Island Park! This is your chance to meet Chief Joe DeLeo and the dedicated officers of the North Aurora Police Department. Whether you have

questions, items of interest, or concerns, our officers are here to listen and discuss. Bring the kids to play in the park and engage with local police officers in a friendly and informal setting. Enjoy your popsicles and the conversation!

FREE Disaster Preparedness Class!

Join us for a 2-hour interactive session and become a disaster readiness champion! The first 20 attendees (one per family) will receive a first aid kit. Plus, enter to win a NOAA Severe Weather Radio!

Learn about: **Local Hazards** (specific dangers in our area), **Weather Warnings** (how to stay informed), **Family Emergency Plans**, and **Emergency Supply Kits**.

Secure your spot today and take the first step towards ensuring your family's safety. **Course dates are:** June 27 at 6:00 pm, June 29 at 9:00 am, July 25 at 6:00 pm and July 27 at 9:00 am. **Register online at www.northaurora.org/disaster-preparedness/**

National Night Out Registration

On Tuesday, August 6, neighborhoods throughout North Aurora will join communities across the nation for National Night Out (NNO): a crime and drug prevention event.

The focus of our local National Night Out is bringing neighborhoods together, having fun, and being united against crime and disorder. From 5:00 pm—9:00 pm residents are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. Registration for National Night Out is free and gives public safety officials the opportunity to attend your event as time and call volume allow. Members of the police and fire departments will visit as many registered events as possible.

Please register by **July 22** by contacting Officer Dave Parr at **(630) 897-8705, ext. 714** or **dparr@northaurora.org** so that we can attend your event!



SAVE THE DATE! Our annual community picnic will be held on Sat., Sept. 21 from 1:00 — 4:00 pm at the North Aurora Police Department!

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Community Development News

Code Enforcement Reminders

- Lawns must be kept under 8" in height, this includes weeds.
- Trash cans and lawn waste bags should not be placed at the curb until 3:00pm the day before trash pickup, and such containers must be removed from the curb no later than midnight of the day of collection.
- Campers, boats or other RV's can be parked on front drives Thursday at 6:00pm through Monday noon only.
- Please keep in mind the Village's policy on fire pits and open burning during these pleasant summer evenings. Open burning, which includes bonfires, is strictly prohibited. The burning of materials including refuse and garbage, yard waste (which includes leaves), processed materials and processed woods are not allowed. The Village welcomes residents to use enclosed burning devices, like a fire pit, and gently reminds that no fires, even contained ones, should be left unattended.



Firepit

vs.

Bonfire

Water Rate Increases

Effective June 1, 2024, the Village will increase its water rates from \$4.26 to \$4.79 per 1,000 gallons billed after the first 3,000 gallons. The \$16 bimonthly charge for the first 3,000 gallons remains unchanged. The increase was determined necessary to help fund operations, maintenance, and future capital projects of our water system.



Movie in the Park: Disney's Encanto



Join us for a magical evening on Friday, July 19, 2024 to watch **Disney's Encanto** at this year's Movie in the Park!

Movie in the Park will take place at Fearn Park (1501 Waterford Road). The community is welcome to come out starting at 6:00 pm to purchase piping hot and very tasty food provided by Juquilita Tacos and at 7:00 pm Koconuts Shave Ice will be serving up scoops of frozen deliciousness. The Village will have candy available (for free!) to snack on while watching the movie too! You're welcome to bring your own food, beverages (no alcohol!), and of course picnic blankets and chairs to enjoy the night!

Community Garage Sale

The Village's annual Community Garage Sale will take place over the dates of Thursday, August 1—Saturday, August 3.

All residences looking to participate will need to fill out the registration form (located on the Village website or available at Village Hall starting on **June 17**) and submit it to the Village no later than Tuesday, July 23 at 4:30 pm, to be included on the Garage Sale Map.

Recommended hours of operation are from 8:00 am—4:00 pm; however, residents can choose which hours work best for them.

GARAGE SALE

August 1—3

Green Thumb Nominations

The Village's Beautification Committee is accepting nominations for their Summer Property Recognition Program, Green Thumb, that will judge the front yard landscaping of submitted properties based on overall appearance and creativity!

Residents can nominate their own property or a deserving one in the neighborhood by submitting a form on the Village website. The Beautification Committee will judge each property and will award the top four placing properties Woodman's gift cards in the respective amounts: \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25!

The deadline to submit a property for Green Thumb is **Thursday, June 20** and Committee members will be judging from June 21—June 30. **Please make sure the house number is easily visible for judging!**



2023 Green Thumb Winner: 110 Long Avenue