

Hoffman Estates Citizen

April 2020

News from the Village of Hoffman Estates

Village services impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Village of Hoffman Estates is working with local, state and federal health partners to take all preventative steps available to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Turn to page 2 for a list of services and programs impacted by COVID-19 closures.

According to Mayor William D. McLeod, “The well-being of our residents is of utmost concern. As such, the Village has taken strong measures to limit the spread of COVID-19. We will continue to work closely with state and county officials and follow the recommendations of the CDC to ensure everyone’s safety.”

Most Village facilities are currently closed to walk-in traffic, including the Village Hall, Health and Human Services, Public Works and the Village’s four fire stations. The Hoffman Estates Police Department remains open, and all 911 and emergency services remain fully operational. Residents should only visit the police station in person if necessary, and they should be sure to observe social distancing guidelines.

All non-essential Village meetings and events have been canceled through the end of April. Meetings of the Village Board and Standing Committees may occur electronically during this time, as allowed by special rules enacted at the state level.

While buildings are closed, Village employees are still working. During this closure, the public is strongly encouraged to utilize the Village’s online bill payment system and other functions, as well as the drop boxes located at the Village Hall (1900 Has-sell Road), police station (411 W. Higgins Road), fire station 23 (1300 Westbury Drive) and fire station 24 (5775 Beacon Point Drive).

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Some services suspended, postponed

Due to precautions related to COVID-19, a number of Village services and programs are currently suspended or postponed.



All non-essential Village meetings, events and tours are canceled through April 30.

- The water meter replacement program is suspended until May 1; existing appointments will be canceled.
- Spring branch pickup has been canceled. The program will resume in the fall.
- Building permits are being processed, but inspections are limited. Call Code Enforcement at 847-781-2631 for additional information.
- Residential rental inspections and annual business fire inspections are suspended through April 30.
- Passport service at Village Hall is suspended through April 30.
- Health and Human Services clinics are suspended through April 30. Non-essential health services, including vision, hearing and cholesterol screenings, are not currently available. Mental health services are available via TeleHealth. Call Health and Human Services at 847-781-4850 for additional information.
- The Village's weekly Electronics Recycling Drop-off Program, which was set to resume April 6, has been postponed until further notice.
- The administrative adjudication hearing scheduled for April 6 is postponed to April 20.
- Residential water shutoffs will not occur until after April 30; however, late fees and penalties will apply.

2020 Street Revitalization Project

The Village of Hoffman Estates will be investing approximately \$7 million into Village infrastructure this construction season. These investments will benefit residents and businesses by improving neighborhoods with safe and serviceable streets and infrastructure for years to come.

The 2020 Street Revitalization Project will consist of the reconstruction of five streets, the resurfacing of 34 streets and a storm sewer improvement project.

Work is expected to begin in May and be completed by the end of November. Reconstruction involves the complete removal

of the street and the installation of a new base, asphalt pavement, curbs and gutters, driveway aprons, and sidewalk repairs. Resurfacing involves removing the top wearing surface of the street and replacing it with new asphalt along with minor curb, gutter and sidewalk work.

Information packets will be mailed to all residents living within project location areas before work begins. A full list of project locations is provided on page 3.

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this project is subject to change.

[continued on page 3]



Village services still available!

While the Village Hall is closed to the public during the month of April, the following Village services are available via online, telephone, email or drop box transactions. Call with questions or for more specific guidance.

- Real estate transfer stamps: call 847-882-9100
- Water bill payments: call 847-882-9100
- Building permits: call 847-781-2631 (plans can be dropped off at Village Hall)
- Building inspection scheduling: call 847-781-2631

Business licensing and liquor licensing remain available on an appointment-only basis through the Village Clerk's office. Call 847-781-2625 to schedule.

Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 situation, this information is subject to change. Visit the Village's website at www.hoffmanestates.org for the most up-to-date information.



Road construction

[continued from page 2]

Reconstruction streets

- [Burnham Drive](#) from Amber Circle to Palatine Road
- [Carthage Lane](#) from Cumberland Street to Arizona Boulevard
- [Flagstaff Lane](#) from Washington Boulevard to Grand Canyon Street
- [Franklin Place](#) from Georgetown Lane to Erie Lane
- [Georgetown Lane](#) from Hassell Road to Dunmore Place

Resurfacing streets

- [Apricot Street](#) from Hawthorn Lane to Aster Lane
- [Aster Lane](#) from Apple Street to Basswood Street
- [Azalea Lane](#) from Ash Road to Aspen Street
- [Bluebonnet Lane \(N\)](#) from Ash Road to Aster Lane
- [Botsford Place](#) from Governors Lane to end of street
- [Castaway Lane](#) from Huntington Boulevard to Palatine Road
- [Charleston Lane](#) from Lexington Drive to Treaty Lane
- [Danbury Place](#) from Whitingham Lane to end of street
- [Deer Valley Lane](#) from McDonough Road to Landers Drive
- [Elizabeth Court](#) from Durham Lane to end of street
- [Essex Drive](#) from Caribou Lane to Shoe Factory Road
- [Flagstaff Lane](#) from Grand Canyon Street to Roselle Road
- [Forest Glen Drive](#) from Cottonwood Trail to Cottonwood Trail
- [Frederick Lane](#) from Highland Boulevard to Jefferson Road
- [Freeman Road](#) from Huntington Boulevard to Mumford Drive
- [Glenwood Lane](#) from Silver Pine Drive to Thornbark Drive
- [Huntington Boulevard](#) from Palatine Road to Westbury Drive
- [Illinois Boulevard](#) from Thacker Road to Roselle Road
- [John Drive](#) from Darlington Circle to Gannon Drive
- [Kent Road](#) from Frederick Lane to Hillcrest Boulevard
- [Landers Drive](#) from Deer Valley Lane to Nicholson Drive
- [Maricopa Lane](#) from Mohave Street to Illinois Boulevard
- [Mason Drive](#) from Winston Drive to Firestone Drive
- [Michael Court](#) from Freeman Road to end of street
- [Oakmont Road \(W\)](#) from Kingsdale Road to Fairmont Road
- [Pierce Road](#) from Lafayette Lane to end of street
- [Ponderosa Lane](#) from Thornbark Drive to end of street
- [Suffolk Court](#) from Suffolk Lane to end of street
- [Thacker Street \(W\)](#) from Lincoln Street to Roselle Road
- [Thornbark Drive](#) from Westbury Drive to Palatine Road
- [Washington Boulevard](#) from Schaumburg Road to Milton Lane
- [Winston Circle](#) from Winston Drive to end of street
- [Winston Drive](#) from Algonquin Road to Charleston Lane
- [Woodlawn Street](#) from Western Street to end of street

Storm sewer improvement

- [Illinois Boulevard](#) from Evanston Street to Roselle Road

Visit www.hoffmanestates.org/roadconstruction for weekly updates on Village projects starting this spring, as well as information on other road construction projects in the area.

If you would like to be added to an email list for construction updates or have any project-related questions, contact the Transportation and Engineering Division by phone at 847-252-5800 or by email at roadconstruction@hoffmanestates.org with "2020 Street Project" in the subject line.



A message from Mayor McLeod

The Village of Hoffman Estates has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak. Please know that our elected officials, as well as members of our Village management team, are working hard to provide essential services during this time. For your convenience, we have a dedicated page on the Village website with links to important information: www.hoffmanestates.org/coronavirus.

Although we are in the middle of a difficult situation, it's also important that we look ahead. And 2020 is an exciting time in our nation's history. This year, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, which guarantees and protects women's constitutional right to vote. The Village is proud to highlight this significant achievement – women (and the men who valued them) fought long and hard for this right. Many women were imprisoned for this right, ridiculed for this right, degraded for this right. Some died for this right. The Village Board and I will be hosting events throughout the year to highlight this important and poignant piece of our shared history. Keep an eye out for events in future issues of this newsletter, on our website and through social media.

It's not too late to participate in the census! We are ALL important and deserve to be counted. A number of mailings have gone out to each home in Hoffman Estates. If you have not yet completed the census, you still have an opportunity to do so. Visit www.census.gov or call 800-923-8282. This is the first time in history that the U.S. Census Bureau has provided an online option. It's simple, easy and confidential!

As always, if you have questions or just want to drop a note to say hello, you can call me at 847-815-3842 or email bill.mcleod@hoffmanestates.org.

Bill McLeod



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www.facebook.com/hoffmanestatesil



Follow us on Twitter!
www.twitter.com/hoffmantweets



Watch videos on YouTube!
www.youtube.com/hoffmanestatesil



Sign up for eNews!
www.hoffmanestates.org/enews

Community briefs

Electronics recycling postponed

The Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County's (SWANCC) seasonal Electronics Recycling Drop-off Program (originally set to resume April 6) has been delayed due to the outbreak of the COVID-19. Visit www.swancc.org and click the "Recycling Directory" link for a list of alternate recycling contractors. Closures continue to occur, so be sure to call prior to dropping off electronics. For updated information on when the weekly drop-off at the Village Hall will resume, follow the Village on social media or visit www.hoffmanestates.org.

Yard waste collection guidelines

Yard waste collection is projected to begin April 1, but this date may be subject to change due to COVID-19. Residents are reminded that grass clippings, plant material and leaves must be placed in brown paper yard waste bags. Bags cannot exceed 45 pounds and a yard waste disposal sticker must be affixed to each bag. Yard waste stickers are available at the Village Hall, local retail stores, and online at www.hoffmanestates.org/yardwaste and www.groot.com. An annual subscription for unlimited yard waste pickup is also available through Groot by calling 800-244-1977.



Visible address numbers required

Address numbers are vital. First responders use them to locate homes and businesses when time is critical. The Village's Municipal Code requires that all buildings have address numbers that can be read from the street. Address numbers must be Arabic numerals that are at least 4 inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch. Commercial buildings must also have addresses posted and visible on the rear door. Numbers that are written out as text are not acceptable. Make sure firefighters, police officers, code enforcement officers – even pizza delivery drivers – can find your home or business! For more information, call Code Enforcement at 847-781-2631.

Home repair loan assistance

The Village offers a single-family home repair program for qualified homeowners to help complete home repairs that address code violations, safety issues and weatherization. A deferred loan for up to \$25,000 with 0% interest and no monthly payments is available to residents. The loan is financed through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Typical projects include roofing, doors, windows, plumbing, electrical wiring, heating and basic structural improvements. All work is inspected by the Village. To qualify for a loan, you must:

- Reside in Hoffman Estates
- Own, live in and have equity in the home you wish to repair
- Be current on property taxes and mortgage
- Meet the income requirements found at www.hoffmanestates.org/cdbg

The North West Housing Partnership (NWHP) is a nonprofit that administers this program for the Village. If you qualify, NWHP will assist you with the entire process from beginning to end.

For more information or to apply, call NWHP at 847-969-0561 or visit www.nwhp.net and click "Programs" at the top of the page.



eNews from Hoffman Estates

Hoffman Estates is expanding its communication to residents. To sign up for free email alerts, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/enews. From there, you can customize your account profile. By providing the Village with your contact information, you'll be the first to receive news, meeting announcements and employment opportunities, among other emails. This is a confidential message system customized to suit your specific needs.

Garage sale permits required

Residents must obtain a free permit to hold a garage sale. The permit can be obtained at the Village Hall or by emailing garagesales@hoffmanestates.org with the dates and address of the proposed sale. Garage sales are only allowed to take place on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and a sale may not span more than four consecutive days. A maximum of three garage sales are allowed per address each calendar year and must take place within the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. If a garage sale is conducted without a permit, a \$10 "on site" permit fee will be assessed. For more information, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/garagesales or call 847-781-2631.



Counseling services

Health and Human Services offers professional counseling services to residents. Counseling can improve an individual's life by reducing stress, working through change and increasing satisfaction related to work, school and relationships. Services are available for individuals, couples and families. Fees are affordable for all households, and are provided on a sliding scale based on household income. Call 847-781-4850 for information.

HETV available on Comcast and U-verse

HETV (Hoffman Estates TV) is available on both Comcast cable (channel 6) and AT&T U-Verse (channel 99; scroll through the list of city names and select "Hoffman Estates"). HETV provides information about the Village, Village Board meetings, high school sports and concerts, as well as other educational programs. If you are experiencing problems with your service that the provider has not been able to address, call Cable TV Coordinator

Ric Signorella at 847-781-2607 for assistance. For more information, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/hetv.



Healthy body, healthy mind ...

news from Health and Human Services

The safety of the Hoffman Estates community is important to the Health and Human Services Department. As the COVID-19 outbreak evolves, the Village continues to monitor the situation closely and will provide updated guidance based on current recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to those attending clinics or receiving services, **Health and Human Services is postponing all clinics at this time.** For additional updates, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/coronavirus. If you have questions about vaccines, services or resources, call 847-781-4850.

Mental health and COVID-19

Given the ongoing changes surrounding COVID-19, it is important to focus on how to manage associated stress and anxiety. Situations like this can lead to strong emotions in people of all ages, and the CDC recognizes that children, those with preexisting mental health concerns, and those working more closely with the response to COVID-19 are at an increased risk for stress.

The National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI) and the CDC offer these important reminders:

- If you are concerned about attending therapy sessions, you are encouraged to speak

with your therapist about receiving services remotely, such as online or tele-therapy.

- If you take medication, speak with your psychiatrist or healthcare provider about options for receiving a 90-day supply. If you are unable to do this, make sure to fill any prescription as soon as possible.
- Stay informed, but avoid excessive exposure to media coverage – monitor information from your local public health team and listen for recommendations that are most relevant to your community.
- Know your employer's plans and expectations about potential outbreaks, what to do if you have concerns about symptoms, and what to do if you feel sick. At work, make sure you are cleaning work surfaces frequently.
- Practice self-care – reach out to family and friends, make time for relaxing activities, eat healthy foods, and maintain a good sleep schedule.
- Monitor any emerging symptoms and respond according to the CDC and local public health recommendations, practice recommended hygiene and cleaning recommendations, and observe social distancing when possible.



Talking with children about COVID-19

During times of uncertainty, children take their cues from the adults around them. The way you respond to news about COVID-19 has an impact on these children, and the more calmness and confidence they observe in their caregivers, the less likely they are to feel that their world or health is at risk.

Just as with adults, children respond to stress differently. The CDC notes the following common changes you may observe in your children during increased times of stress:

- Excessive crying
- Increased worry, irritability and/or sadness
- Acting out behaviors
- School refusal or behavioral problems at school
- Problems with attention and/or concentration
- Increase in avoidance
- Unexplained body symptoms, such as stomachaches or headaches

When speaking with children about COVID-19, keep the following in mind:

- Do not assume that they cannot handle the conversation. Withholding age-appropriate information from children can actually increase their anxiety. Talk about COVID-19 in a manner that they can understand, and share facts about the virus in a developmentally appropriate way.
- Emphasize safety – reassure children that they are safe. Talk about ways they can manage their stress and anxiety in healthy ways, with an emphasis on talking about their concerns with you openly and without hesitation.
- Limit exposure to media coverage of COVID-19.
- Maintain a normal routine and, in the event that your routine is disrupted, work to implement structure in the home until they can return to their normal daily lives.
- Model healthy ways of responding to stress and taking care of yourself.



By Bev Romanoff
Hoffman Estates Village Clerk

Clerk's corner

You have six months left before a REAL ID is required for all adults (over the age of 18) who will be traveling by plane, as well as minors who are traveling alone – including domestic travel. If your license isn't expiring yet, you can still get the REAL ID for \$5. Bring the required documents to the Illinois Secretary of State's office and be prepared to wait. For a complete list of required documents, visit www.realid.ilsos.gov.

Contact the Village Clerk at 847-781-2625 or bev.romanoff@hoffmanestates.org.

Are you ready for bicycling?

As the weather improves, have you been thinking about taking your bike out for a ride? Whether using bike paths, bike lanes or local streets in and around the Village, there are a few tips and reminders to keep bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists safe.



A paved bike path in the Paul Douglas Preserve.

Take the bike safety quizzes developed by Ride Illinois (one for bicyclists, one for drivers and one for children) to learn or refresh your knowledge. The quizzes can be found on the Ride Illinois website at www.rideillinois.org. The interactive questions cover safety techniques, as well as relevant laws using images and short explanations.

And make sure your bicycle and helmet are ready for the season. Check your gears, tires, brakes, cables, chain, connections, lights and reflectors. Know how to properly wear your helmet, both for you and for children – the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has good guides and videos online at www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/bicycle-safety.

Best wishes for safe and happy cycling!



A bike lane on Huntington Boulevard.

Welcome new businesses!

Bystronic, Inc.
2200 W. Central Road

In 2019, Bystronic made a commitment to develop their North American headquarters in Hoffman Estates, which will feature office, manufacturing, warehouse and showroom space for their industrial products. Bystronic joins the Village's growing high-tech manufacturing area along the Golden Corridor of I-90.

Bank of America ATM
1187 N. Roselle Road

BillyDoe Meats, Inc.
2400 Hassell Road, #300

Code Ninjas
1710 Algonquin Road

Coral Reef, Inc.
990 Grand Canyon Parkway, #417



ecoATM, LLC
1069 N. Roselle Road

FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Center
2500 W. Higgins Road, #420

G-Cat Construction Company
2500 W. Higgins Road, #365

Journey to Wellness, Inc.
1000 Grand Canyon Parkway, #105

Repipe Pros, Inc.
2815 Forbs Ave., #131

Schaumburg Medicine and Endocrinology
2500 W. Higgins Road, #640

Sean Progar Insurance Agency, Inc.
2316 Hassell Road

Strategic Remarketing Solutions, LLC
2800 W. Higgins Road, #510

Zeigler Reconditioning Center
1051 W. Higgins Road

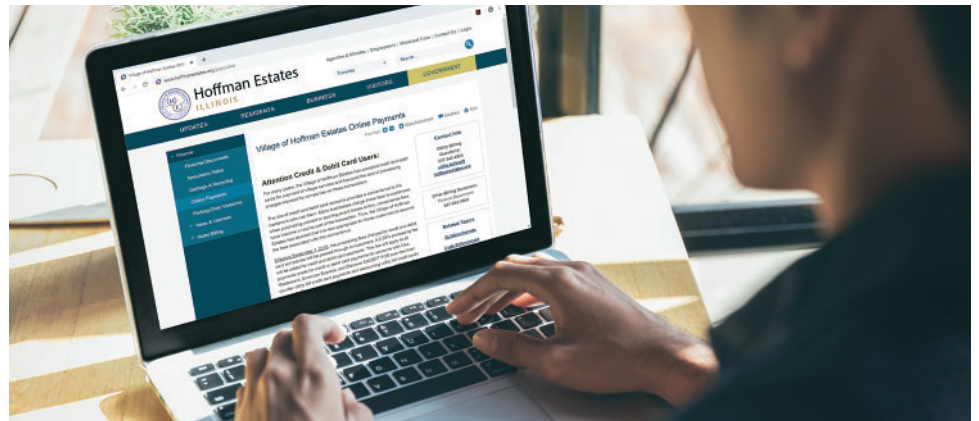


Online services still available!

Village services are available online! Visit www.hoffmanestates.org/payonline to pay utility bills, license fees and more! You can also use the Village drop boxes located at:

- Village Hall (1900 Hassell Road)
- Police Department (411 W. Higgins Road)
- Fire Station 23 (1300 Westbury Drive)
- Fire Station 24 (5775 Beacon Point Drive)

Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19 situation, all information is subject to change. Visit the Village's website at www.hoffmanestates.org for the most up-to-date information.



April calendar



Village **cancel**s events and meetings for April

Due to precautions related to COVID-19, all non-essential Village meetings, events and tours are canceled, effective immediately, through April 30, 2020. Events may be postponed to a future date.

As a reminder, most Village facilities are currently closed to walk-in traffic, including the Village Hall, Health and Human Services, Public Works and the Village's four fire stations.

For up-to-date information, visit www.hoffmanestates.org/calendar.

Wednesday, April 1

- Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m. at VH

*Sunday, April 5

- Veteran's Flag 66: Donald C. Jones, Army, WWII

Monday, April 6

- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m. at VH
- Village Board Meeting, immediately following Standing Committee Meetings at VH

*Sunday, April 12

- Veteran's Flag 67: Stanley C. Paige, Army, Vietnam

Monday, April 13

- Fire Pension Fund Board, 9:30 a.m. at Fire Station 24
- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m. at VH

Wednesday, April 15

- Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m. at VH

*Sunday, April 19

- Veteran's Flag 68: Fernando Figueroa, Army, Vietnam

Monday, April 20

- Police Pension Fund Board, 1 p.m. at PD
- Village Board Meeting, 7 p.m. at VH

*Sunday, April 26

- Veteran's Flag 69: Richard J. Collins, USMC, WWII

Monday, April 27

- Standing Committee Meetings, 7 p.m. at VH

Village Board meetings are held on the **first and third Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the VH Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

The **General Administration and Personnel; Planning, Building and Zoning;** and **Transportation and Road Improvement** committee meetings are held on the **second Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the VH Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

The **Finance; Public Health and Safety;** and **Public Works and Utilities** committee meetings are held on the **fourth Monday** of each month at 7 p.m. in the VH Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

VH: Village Hall, 1900 Hassell Road

PD: Police Department, 411 W. Higgins Road

PWC: Public Works Center, 2305 Pembroke Ave.

sears® Centre Arena

POWERED BY **SHOP YOUR WAY**®



Sears Centre Arena events

Saturday, May 30

- Elevation Nights 2020, 7 p.m.

Sears Centre events may be canceled due to COVID-19. Please confirm by visiting www.searscentre.com for updated information.



The Sears Centre Arena at night.

Be a nice neighbor

Please be respectful while traveling through Village neighborhoods and while doing work outside. Keep noise levels reasonable and be mindful of leaving waste in your wake. Your neighbors will appreciate it!

Leash your pets!

The Village's Municipal Code states that animals, including dogs and cats, need to be under proper control. When animals are not on their owner's property, they must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet and under the control of a responsible person. No animal is allowed to run at large in the Village at any time, and the owner is responsible for removal and sanitary disposition of any waste from the animal(s) anywhere in the Village. Prevent your pet from becoming a public nuisance!

Psychological testing

Health and Human Services provides comprehensive psychological assessment services for children, adolescents and adults at a rate of \$75 per hour, and financial assistance is available based on need. A range of services are offered to meet the needs of the community, including evaluations to address academic performance, learning disorders, ADHD, behavioral concerns, diagnostic clarification and personality assessment. Clients are provided with a detailed report of findings, which includes diagnostic impressions and detailed treatment recommendations. For more information, call 847-781-4850.

**The flag-rotation ceremony is held at the Veterans' Memorial every Sunday at 1 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Those wishing to make a donation for the perpetual maintenance of the Memorial may do so at the Village Hall, or by mailing a check to the Veterans' Memorial c/o the Village of Hoffman Estates, 1900 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169. The casket flags of deceased veterans listed on the calendar above will be flying at the Veterans' Memorial in the coming month. The Veterans' Memorial is located outside the Hoffman Estates Police Department at 411 W. Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169.*

The Village of Hoffman Estates

1900 Hassell Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
www.hoffmanestates.org



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POSTAL CUSTOMER
Hoffman Estates, IL

Important phone numbers

Main847-882-9100
Police and Fire911
Police Administration847-781-2800
Fire Administration847-843-4825
Public Works847-490-6800
Health and
Human Services.847-781-4850
Event Hotline847-252-5443

Village officials

Mayor

William D. McLeod

Trustees

Karen V. Mills
Anna Newell
Gary J. Pilafas
Gary G. Stanton
Michael Gaeta
Karen J. Arnet

Village Clerk

Bev Romanoff

Village Manager

James H. Norris

Municipal facilities

Facilities may be impacted by closures due to COVID-19. Please access our online services or call to confirm before visiting.

Village Hall

1900 Hassell Road

Police Department

411 W. Higgins Road

Fire Administration

1900 Hassell Road

Fire Station 21 — Carl W. Selke

225 Flagstaff Lane

Fire Station 22 — Michael J. O'Malley

1700 Moon Lake Blvd.

Fire Station 23 — Richard G. Cordova

1300 Westbury Drive

Fire Station 24 — Jerome Danowski

5775 Beacon Pointe Drive

Susan H. Kenley-Rupnow

Public Works Center

2305 Pembroke Ave.

Printed on recycled paper

Fire department provides facts about garage fires

Every year, there are 6,600 garage fires in homes in the United States that result in an average of 30 deaths, 400 injuries and \$457 million in property loss.

Of these fires, 93% occurred in one- and two-family homes. The leading cause of garage fires is **electrical malfunction**, including damaged wires and overloading electrical outlets.

The Hoffman Estates Fire Department would like to remind residents to follow these safety tips to keep homes safe from garage fires:

- Store oil, gasoline, paints, propane and varnishes in a shed away from your home.
- Keep items that can burn on shelves away from appliances.
- Plug only one charging appliance into an outlet.
- Don't use an extension cord when charging an appliance.

For added safety, you should consider installing:

- A 20-minute fire-rated door that is self-closing and self-latching from the garage into the house.
- A ceiling made with 5/8-inch Type X gypsum board (or equivalent) if you have living space above the garage.
- A wall with 1/2-inch gypsum board (or equivalent) if the wall attaches the garage to your home.
- An attic hatch cover if you have attic access from the garage.
- A heat alarm — not a smoke alarm — in your garage. The heat alarm will sound if the temperature rises too high.

For more information, call the Hoffman Estates Fire Prevention Bureau at 847-843-4835.



A garage fire in Hoffman Estates.