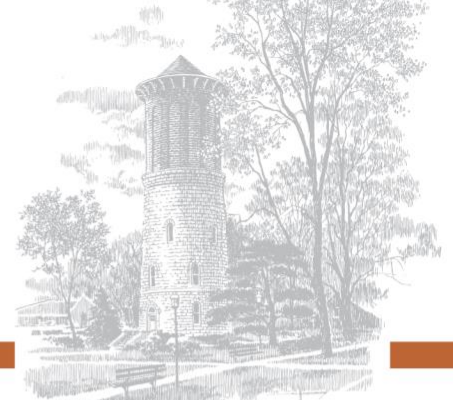


TUESDAY TOPICS



June 29, 2021

Saturday Storms:

- June 26 brought flooded roadways and gusty winds to our Village and most of Chicagoland. Many residents emailed photos of their dire situations. Public Works deserves special recognition as they worked tirelessly to clear grates and improve the flow of stormwater. Despite their efforts, significant street flooding occurred. In such instances, do not attempt to traverse streets that have water higher than your vehicle's wheel rim. The Board is working on a comprehensive multi-year, all-Village infrastructure improvement plan that identifies stormwater conveyance as a top priority. More to come on this topic in the near future.

Mutual Aid Assistance to Storm-Damaged Communities:

- As noted above, the Public Works Department has been working non-stop to keep up with issues within our Village and to assist neighboring communities in their time of need. Public Works assisted with clean up in Woodridge and Burr Ridge last week. This week, they will focus on collecting branches that fell in our area as a result of the storms. Learn more about branch collection [here](#).

Severe Weather and Use of Tornado Sirens:

- Last week's severe weather resulted in a Tornado Warning for our area, but did not include the activation of the Village's tornado sirens. The Village is a founding member of a consolidated dispatch center, the Lyons Township Area Communications Center (LTACC). While the National Weather Service issued the tornado warning for our area, LTACC independently decided not to activate tornado sirens after reviewing weather data. Western Springs disagrees with that decision, and we expressed our concerns with the decision-making process, and requested LTACC review/amend their policies. The Village issued a statement on the [website](#) to residents and is working to ensure that notifications of potentially dangerous weather are issued in multiple ways – including the use of the tornado sirens, when necessary.

BNSF Projects in the Village:

- There are two upcoming BNSF projects in the Village that residents should be aware of: 1) the West Pedestrian Underpass project and 2) the Wolf Road railroad crossing repair work. As of Monday, June 21, BNSF began work on the West Underpass. BNSF will be driving sheet pile, in preparation for the Village's contractor, who will continue the work later this summer. No night work is anticipated. Repairs to the Wolf Road railroad crossing will begin July 15, and will continue through Sunday, July 25. This project requires full closure of the intersection to both vehicles and pedestrian traffic. During construction there will be significant increase in train whistle use in the interest of safety. Additional details on both of these projects are on the Village [website](#).

Register to Receive Rave Alerts:

- Given the recent severe weather in our area, this is a good time to remind you to register for the Rave Alert/Smart 911 emergency notification system. Click on this [link](#) or call 708-246-1800 to request a paper copy, or to receive registration assistance.

Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic:

- School's out for the summer, resulting in an increase of pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular traffic in and around town during the day. Local safety ordinances require bikes to be walked in the congested downtown area. Also, when driving, please obey all laws: slow down on side streets – follow the 25 mph speed limit, come to a complete stop at all stop signs, and avoid distracted driving.

Until next week,

Alice Gallagher,
Village President

Take Care of Yourself, Protect Others, Support our Community