

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois CITY LETTER



Green Business Designation Program

The Crystal Lake Sustainability Committee is now accepting applications from local businesses for the Green Business Designation program. This program has been created to recognize Crystal Lake businesses engaging in environmentally friendly practices. Applicants are required to demonstrate achievement in one of the six following categories:

- Water quality and conservation
- Energy conservation
- Promoting healthy ecosystems
- Handling of waste
- Maintaining or improving air quality
- Education of employees about green initiatives

Crystal Lake businesses are invited to complete an application for the program. Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2023. Please visit the City's Sustainability Committee web page at www.crystallake.org to access the application link. Please contact Nick Hammonds at (815) 356-3675 with any questions.

Official emblem of the Crystal Lake 2022 Green Business Designation Program (Shown on the right)

CITY OF
CRYSTAL LAKE
awarded 2022



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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Polar Plunge

The Polar Plunge to benefit the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Illinois is back! The Crystal Lake Police Department is proud to announce that Crystal Lake's Main Beach will be hosting the regional event. This could be your chance to be bold, get cold and take the dive at Main Beach on March 5, 2023.

To register or help support the Police Department's team, scan the QR code with your phone. Any support is appreciated. We hope you will come out to support the amazing athletes!



"Tip411" Program

Did you know the Crystal Lake Police Department utilizes an anonymous tip program called TIP411? This program allows the Police Department to use a more thorough and encompassing approach to crime prevention while simultaneously building partnerships with the community to combat crime.

This program offers citizens another outlet to play an active role in helping keep their neighborhoods safe.

Using your cell phone, send an anonymous tip to the Crystal Lake Police Department by texting the word CLPD TIP and the tip information to 847411. The TIP411 technology will remove all identifying information before the Police view the message. You may also utilize this program by visiting the Police Department's website at www.crystallake.org.

SEE SOMETHING | SAY SOMETHING
Text the word "CLPD TIP" and your anonymous tip to 847411.

CLPD TIP, The convenient store is selling vapes to underage kids.

CLPD TIP, There are several cars in my neighbors driveway and I believe they are out of town.

CLPD TIP, Someone is pulling on car door handles.

CLPD TIP, There is a party with loud music at 123 Blank Street.

POLICE CRYSTAL LAKE

If this is a life-threatening emergency, call 911. You can always say you wish to remain anonymous

Citizens Police Academy

Applications are now open for the Citizen Police Academy. This free 11-week program provides a working knowledge of the Crystal Lake Police Department. The Academy consists of classes, discussions, and demonstrations of the Department's operations and divisions. The Department uses this educational program

to enhance community safety, increase positive communications, and foster a partnership between the public and the Police Department.

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Enrollment is open to all, with priority given to Crystal Lake residents and those working in Crystal Lake. Participants must be at least 18 years of age, pass a criminal background check, sign a waiver, and hold a harmless agreement. The class size must be between 10-25.

The class will begin on February 9, 2023, and end on April 20, 2023. Times for classes will be from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. every Thursday.

Crystal Lake Police Department (815) 356-3620

Officer Sal Alfano - (815) 444-5956 or by email at salfano@crystallake.org

follow The CLPD on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest news, events, and safety tips!

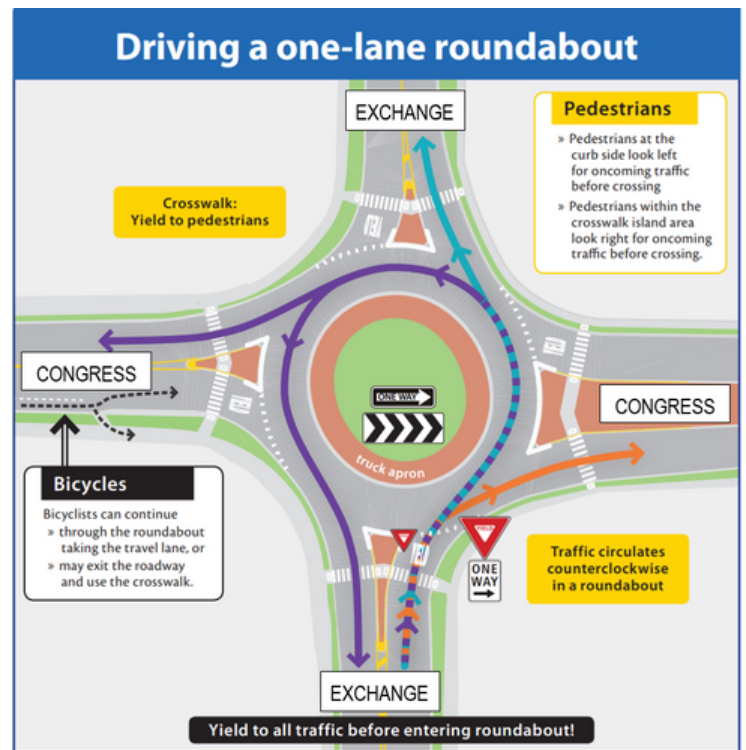


Roundabouts

The trend of roundabouts replacing traditional four-way stop intersections can be seen in communities across the country. These changes improve safety and traffic flow at intersections. Traditional intersections with stop signs or traffic signals often lead to right-angle, left-turn, and head-on collisions. The circular design of the roundabout forces drivers to slow down, drastically reducing the potential for these types of crashes. Roundabouts also keep cars moving, improving traffic flow while reducing vehicle emissions and fuel consumption. Roundabouts are also safer for pedestrians as they walk on sidewalks around the perimeter and cross only one direction of traffic at a time. Crossing distances for pedestrians are relatively short, and traffic speeds are lower than at traditional intersections.

In recent years, various roundabouts have been constructed throughout McHenry County with success in Johnsborg, along Route 20 and along Route 47, to name a few. Crystal Lake will be installing our first roundabouts along Congress Parkway at the intersections of Federal Drive and Exchange Drive in the

To receive an application, please visit the City of Crystal Lake website at www.crystallake.org, scan the QR code below, or email your interest to Officer Sal Alfano at salfano@crystallake.org. Applications will be accepted until January 16.



spring of 2023. The new roundabouts will improve the safety at these intersections and traffic flow for vehicles entering Congress Parkway from these side streets.

Don't be intimidated by driving in roundabouts. Remember to keep calm and follow these steps.

1. Slow down. Obey traffic signs.
2. Yield to pedestrians and bicyclists.
3. Yield to traffic on your left already in the roundabout.
4. Enter the roundabout when there is a safe gap in traffic.
5. Keep your speed low within the roundabout.
6. As you approach your exit, turn on your right turn signal.
7. Yield to pedestrians and bicycles as you exit.



FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Illinois Smoke Alarm Law

- Beginning January 1, 2023, any new smoke alarm installed within a single or multi-family home is required to feature a 10-year sealed battery.
- Since 1988, all dwellings in Illinois have been required to have smoke alarms.
- In 2017, Public Act 100-0200 passed updating the Illinois Smoke Detector Act to reflect advances in alarm technology.
- Smoke alarms installed before 2023 in single or multi-family houses may remain in place until they are ten years from their manufactured date, fail to respond to operability tests, or malfunction in any way.

Exemptions

- Homes built after 1988 which already have hardwired smoke alarms.
- Homes with wireless integrated alarms that use low-power radio frequency communications, Wi-Fi, or other Wireless Local Area Networking capability.



To view the Illinois law in its entirety, visit www.IFSA.org/smoke-alarm-law

Know your Winter Weather Terms

- **Wind Chill Advisory** - dangerous wind chills of 15 below to 24 below are expected.
- **Wind Chill Warning** - potentially life-threatening wind chills of 25 below or colder are expected.
- **Frost Advisory** - damaging frost is expected during the growing season.
- **Freeze Warning** - below-freezing temperatures are expected during the growing season.
- **Ice Storm Warning** - dangerous ice accumulations will occur and are expected to result in hazardous travel, extended power outages, and tree damage.
- **Heavy Snow Warning** - snow accumulations of six inches or greater will result in hazardous travel conditions.
- **Winter Weather Advisory** - cold, ice, and/or snow (two to five inches) are expected.

- **Winter Storm Watch** - severe winter weather, such as heavy snow or ice, is possible within the next day or two.
- **Winter Storm Warning** - extreme ice and/or snow (six inches or more) have begun or are about to begin.
- **Blizzard Warning** - heavy snow and strong winds will produce blinding snow, near zero visibility, deep drifts, and life-threatening travel conditions.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
(815) 356-3640



THREE OAKS RECREATION AREA

Park Hours
6:30 A.M. - Sunset

Join The Team!

Applications are being accepted to join the Three Oaks Recreation Area Team this upcoming 2023 season! Seasonal Lifeguards, Cashiers, and Marina Attendant

roles are available. For position details, visit the City of Crystal Lake Human Resources Employment page and complete an employment application today!

How to Reserve a Pavilion

The City is now taking reservation requests for the 2023 season. Reservations are made online on a first-come, first-serve basis, so we encourage you to set your date and submit your reservation request very soon! Important Note: Your pavilion will not officially be reserved until it has been approved by staff and full payment has been received. All deposits and rental fees must be paid within 24 hours of your pavilion request approval. If all payments are not received within 24 hours, the reservation will not be accepted.

All pavilion details and related FAQ forms are available on The City of Crystal Lake's website under the Pavilion Rentals tab. Should you have any questions, please contact City staff at (815) 459-2020 ext. 4288.

Winter Tips

For the safety of all guests, ice fishing and walking on the ice are not allowed. Please stick to the trails when looking to hike at the park!

During the winter months, we see a rise in the different types of wildlife that visit Three Oaks. Over the years, we've seen bald eagles, hawks, coyotes, and raccoons. Please remember to keep your pets on a leash when using the walking trails and to be aware of your surroundings and the wild visitors pictured to the right.



Pictures of the raccoon, Hawk and coyote are provided by park guest, Mike Odonnell. The photo of the bald eagle is provided by park staff, Pete Genzlinger.

www.crystallake.org/three-oaks-recreation

Information Line: (815) 356-2447 | Rainout Line: (815) 506-9333 | threeoaks@crystallake.org
5517 Northwest Highway, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

A WINTER TO REMEMBER

DIANA KENNEY

Depending upon your age or how long you've lived in northern Illinois, you may remember the winter of 1978-79 (when the downtown Jewel's roof collapsed), the winter of 1967 (worst snowstorm on record) or the winter of 1936 (worst winter in terms of snow and cold in Crystal Lake). Although only a handful of our current residents remember the winter of 1936 firsthand, the story is one for the history books.

Early in 1935, the City of Crystal Lake (with only an old Model A truck in its current fleet) placed an order for a new 1-1/2 ton Dodge Pickup truck which was powerful enough to use for snowplowing. The truck was ordered through V.J. McCormick, and cost \$905. They took delivery of the new truck later that year, just in time for the snowfall season.

In 1936, the City's Street Department had one full time employee, William Rehberg. In contrast, today's Street Department has 13 employees and 20 large snowplows. The city's worst winter started in mid-December 1935, when 6-8 inches of wet, heavy snow blanketed the city. Rehberg pulled an all-nighter and cleared the 75 miles of paved streets without a hitch. Another significant snowfall came on Christmas Day, once again keeping Rehberg up all night to single-handedly clear the streets.

Although the new snowplow could handle the street snow, the sidewalk snow in the business district was another issue. Each day, local farmers would deliver their milk in horse-drawn wagons or bobsleds to the Bowman Dairy plant on Main Street. While in town, farmers could earn a few extra bucks by plowing the sidewalks. The farmers would hitch their horses to a very large scoop and walk behind to clear the city sidewalks.

The first two weeks of January, 1936 could be described as "snow, snow, and more snow". Rehberg and the new truck/snowplow worked long hours to keep the streets clear; but the snow piles and drifts kept getting higher and higher. During the third week of January, frigid winds and extreme cold hit Crystal Lake. Temperatures were reported as low as 30 degrees below zero. Day after day of sub-zero temperatures prevented cars, trucks, busses and trains from operating. Residents were urged to stay home.

February started out where January left off. Old snow and new snow created drifts as high as 25 feet! High winds created blizzard-like conditions, closing down roads and making them impassable. Route 14 between Crystal Lake and Woodstock was cleared just enough to create one lane of traffic (only). All of the snowplows in the county could not keep up. Young, strong men were hired for \$5 an hour (an unheard of amount!) to shovel.

A 30-day cold record was established between January 16 and February 16, 1936 with thermometers registering below zero more than three fourths of the days.

Day after day of frigid temperatures and snowfalls took its toll on everyone. Coal was in short supply, milk and other perishable items could not reach consumers and water pipes were freezing. Would it ever end?

For the adults in the community, the huge snowdrifts and frigid temperatures were cause for extra work and concern. For the children of Crystal Lake, it meant numerous snow days from school, ice skating on the lake (the lake's ice was 30" thick that year) and enjoying the sport of "flipping bobs". This last sport is described by the late Harry Dillon. Harry recalled, "Farmers used to haul their milk cans every morning to the dairy with their wagons. In the wintertime they pulled the wheels off the wagons and put the blade-runners on. They used to ride nice and low. On Saturdays, we kids would get up very early and run down to the dairy and hop on a sled that was going out, a farmer going back home. The deal was you would go until you saw another farmer's sled coming in. Then you would jump off and try to flip onto the one coming in and get a ride back to town. We would go all day doing this. Of course the farmers used to play games--you couldn't do it now, think of the liability--when a kid got ready to jump off they would whack the horse to speed up and you would have to dive into a snow drift to get off the wagon."

Although the winter of 1935-36 is neither the snowiest on record or even the coldest on record, the combination of snow and cold made a significant impact on the citizens of Crystal Lake, making it a Winter to Remember.



A typical scene from 1936, a winter to remember

About the Author: Diana Kenney is an appointed member of the City of Crystal Lake's Historic Preservation Commission, and President of the Crystal Lake Historical Society.

To contact Diana email info@cl-hs.org.

"Slidewalk Sales"

Come visit the shops of Downtown Crystal Lake January 12 – 14 for Slidewalk Sales. Show the support of our local small businesses and slide into savings Downtown. Did you know that in 2023 we will celebrate our 27th anniversary as a Main Street community? In order to be officially entitled "A main street community" Downtown Crystal Lake must

receive accreditation through Main Street America. Only a small percentage of Illinois Main Street programs have earned this national designation. The Downtown Crystal Lake organization is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing Crystal Lake's historic downtown district. For more information, please visit www.DowntownCL.org. Shop local this winter!

The Quarry Corner: January

Happy New Year! The Quarry is excited to kick off the new year with THREE weekends of back to back to back unique events at the Q. Step back in time and have a ROARING good time on January 27-28 and February 3-4! The Quarry will be transforming into a Speakeasy for these occasions! Find the secret entrance and make sure to wear your Gatsby attire. Continue the entertainment on February 10 and 11 for the annual Galentine's Event! Invite your gals, enjoy a night shopping at our mini-market, sip cocktails, snack lite bites and dance the night away while our DJ spins entertaining tunes. The Quarry Cable Park looks forward to seeing all of you in the new year!

THE ULTIMATE GIRLS NIGHT OUT

Galentine's Day

TWO NIGHTS !
FEBRUARY 10 & 11 , 5-11PM
 Mini-Market, Flirty Cocktails, Tasty Bites & More!
LIVE DJ FROM 6PM-9PM BOTH NIGHTS, \$5 COVER

Quarry Cable Park & Grille | quarrycablepark.com

ROARING SPEAKEASY

TRANSFORMED FOR TWO WEEKENDS!
 JANUARY 27/28 & FEBRUARY 3/4

CALENDAR

JANUARY 2022

Monday, January 2

City Hall Offices closed

Tuesday, January 17

City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, January 3

City Council Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, January 18

Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

Wednesday, January 4

Planning and Zoning Meeting, 7:00 P.M.

All Meetings at
 City Hall, 100 W.
 Woodstock Street

City of Crystal Lake, Illinois

MAYOR
Haig Haleblian

COUNCILMEMBER
Ellen Brady
Cathy A. Ferguson
Brett Hopkins
Cameron Hubbard
Mandy Montford
Ian Philpot

CITY CLERK
Nick Kachiroubas

CITY MANAGER
Eric Helm

**Police/Fire/Ambulance
Emergency Only**
911

**All Other Departments
(Non-Emergency)**
815-459-2020

www.crystallake.org

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City of Crystal Lake
100 W. Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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Visit: <https://www.crystallake.org/your-government/communications/enews-sign-up>

to receive the newsletter by e-mail only.

WE VALUE YOUR OPINION

The City of Crystal Lake values the opinion of its residents. If you have any concerns or comments about the City Letter, please express them in the space provided below. (If you need more space, please attach a separate piece of paper). Clip this and mail to: City Letter, City of Crystal Lake, 100 W. Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. Questions or comments can also be sent to comments www.crystallake.org.
