



Village of Silver Lake



News from the Service Department

Mark W. Lipan, Director of Public Service

Hydrant Flushing



Fire Hydrant flushing will begin May 6th and run approximately four weeks until all hydrants are flushed and inspected. This program is conducted once a year and serves to remove sediment and iron deposits from the water mains. The working condition of the hydrants are also inspected to ensure the best possible fire protection for the Village. The flushing process may temporarily discolor your water. While it is safe for drinking, the discoloration may affect laundry. Please check your water before using.

Spring Mower Maintenance



Get your lawn mower ready for the season ahead. Every three years, soil test in spring to determine which nutrients need added to the soil. Testing saves money, time and prevents over application of nutrients. Lightly rake the lawn to remove compacted grass and snow mold caused by excess moisture. Grass clippings should be left on the lawn as nature's fertilizer.

- Sharpen mower blades
- Check filters and replace if necessary
- Clean spark plugs and replace if necessary
- Clean the deck
- Set blades at 3 or 4 inches

Did you know that studies show mowing your lawn to a height of four inches will prevent crabgrass as effectively as a chemical herbicide?

News from Mayor Dunphy

The Village's Administrative staff recently completed training on new features of our software system. These features will allow the Village to begin processing credit card payments for water bills. There is a convenience fee of \$2.75 for charges up to \$500. For higher amounts, the fee is 2.75%.

Please be patient with the staff as they work through the learning curve on this new option.

In addition, the software offers enhanced communication options. Soon, the Village will be able to notify residents of any important information via email, text, and phone alerts. Communication will primarily be through email, but text and phone alerts will be used for any emergency or safety related information.

To effectively manage this system and the corresponding costs, I am asking residents to email Lora Wilmoth (lwilmoth@villageofsilverlake.com) with the following information:

- **Primary contact name.** Please select a member of your household who will be responsible for sharing information with the household.
- **Primary contact email address.** This should be an email address you check regularly.
- **Phone number.** Please indicate if the number is a cell phone (preferred) or landline number.

We need current and accurate information for any resident who wishes to receive alerts and safety notifications from the Village. Please note that messaging and data rates apply.

News from the Police Department

Jamie Norris, Chief of Police

Reminder that any companies working at residential homes (such as landscape companies) must be legally parked and have cones or flashers on at all times while parked on the street.

Ordinance 351.13



Don't Feed the Cats

At its April 1 meeting, Village Council adopted a new version of Ordinance 505.20, which addresses feeding of deer. The ordinance now includes a prohibition against feeding feral cats, as well as deer. The ordinance defines a feral cat as any "wild, stray or not owned" cat. A handful of well-intentioned residents are feeding these animals, but it is causing concentrations of wild animals that negatively impact neighbors. The cats are marking territory and spreading disease to domestic pets. Please take note of this change and refrain from feeding cats that are not your personal pets.

Village of Silver Lake



Please observe road safety signs

Service Department employees are out in full force working on various projects and work orders throughout the Village. Please observe the signs the Service Department posts on the roads as they are working. Do not attempt to go through a "Road Closed" sign for your safety as well as for the safety of our employees.

Meeting Times

Council ~ 1st and 3rd Monday of the month @ 7 pm

Planning Commission ~ 2nd and 4th Monday of the month @ 6 pm

Park Board ~ 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6 pm

Shade Tree Commission ~ 1st Thursday of the month @ 4:00 pm

Water Shed Committee ~ Wednesday June 12th @ 6:00 pm

Board of Zoning Appeals ~ As needed.

Silver Lake Garden Club ~ Monday May 20th @ 12:30 pm

Silver Lake Utility Bill Direct Payment Program (ACH) ~ No check writing ~ No postage ~ No late fees ~ No hassles

- Your water/sewer utility bill will be automatically deducted directly from your bank account in cooperation with your bank.
- Automated Clearing House (ACH) is a safe, reliable, and no cost way to pay your bill.
- The utility bill amount is withdrawn from your account on the 20th of each month or the next business day if it falls on a weekend/holiday.
- Utility customers will continue to receive a copy of their utility bill each month.
- You may stop ACH at any time by submitting written notice to the Silver Lake Utility Department.

If you are interested in the direct payment plan for your Silver Lake water and sewer bill, the application can be obtained online at villageofsilverlake.com and then returned to Village Hall.

*If you are already enrolled in ACH, you do **NOT** need to fill this application out again.*

Silver Lake Garden Club

You are invited to attend Silver Lake Garden Club on Monday May 20, 2024, at 12:30 pm at Village Hall for a light luncheon and the presentation **Growing our Own Vegetables and Cut Flowers** presented by Master Gardener Geoff Kennedy.



Save the Date for Saturday, July 20 for the Annual Silver Lake Garden Club Festival. Join all Village residents for a day filled with great food, games, prizes and entertainment. Please be one of the 100 volunteers needed to make this event a success. Email your name and phone number to SLGCNews@outlook.com. Thank you.



Silver Lake Watershed Commission

As spring weather arrives in the Village, many of us are turning our attention to outdoor spaces. Keep in mind that you can achieve an attractive yard while protecting our lakes and river. Consider the following steps to create a clean, safe yard.

1. **Start with soil.** Healthy soil that is rich in nutrients and beneficial microorganisms is the secret to lush grass. Test your soil so you know what nutrients and water quantities your soil needs. Only apply a phosphorus fertilizer if your soil needs it and remember healthy lawns don't need more than one fertilizer treatment per year. You can also consider an organic fertilizer.
2. **Overseed the lawn each year.** Thin patches are vulnerable to weeds, which leads to more chemical herbicides. Encourage dense growth with routine overseeding.
3. **Mow the right way.** Don't mow too low, as this encourages pests and disease. No more than one third of the grass should be cut at one time, using a sharp mower blade. Mowing at the higher end of your grass's recommended cutting height encourages deeper roots and helps shade out pesky weeds.
4. **Don't bag your grass or leaf clippings.** Mulch leaves to a dime size and leave them, and grass clippings, in your lawn. They are healthy for your lawn and decompose quickly.
5. **Water it correctly.** Water your lawn in the morning and do so infrequently and for long periods to encourage a robust root system.

Information courtesy of lawnlove.com.