## Village issues scam alerts

Issued: April 1, 2021

The Village has issued several scam alerts that residents should be aware of.

## **RPZ Scam**

Representatives from a company called Municipal Backflow have been contacting residents claiming they aren't in compliance with the State's law concerning irrigation backflow preventer (RPZ) tests. Please be aware that the Village of Tinley Park has an exclusive contract with Backflow Solutions Incorporated (BSI) to administer the recertification process for RPZs, and all official communication concerning recertification will be made by BSI or the Village of Tinley Park. If you have any questions, please call the Tinley Park Public Works Department at (708) 444-5500.

## **Vaccine Scams**

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is offering a new toll-free telephone number at (877) 355-0213 that contains tips on how to avoid COVID-19 vaccine scams. Tips are available in both English and Spanish. Remember:

- You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.
- You can't pay to get early access to the vaccine.
- Nobody legit will call, text or email about the vaccine and ask for your Social Security, bank account or credit card number.

Please spread the word about this new resource to help people in your community avoid COVID-19 vaccine scams. Also, share the Consumer Protection Financial Bureau's resources on how to prevent <a href="coronavirus-related scams">coronavirus-related scams</a> and <a href="protectyour finances">protect your finances</a> during the pandemic.

## **IRS** email scam

The IRS has warned of an ongoing IRS-impersonation scam that appears to primarily target educational institutions, including students and staff who have ".edu" email addresses. The suspect emails display the IRS logo and use various subject lines such as "Tax Refund Payment" or "Recalculation of your tax refund payment." It asks people to click a link and submit a form to claim

their refund. People who receive this scam email should not click on the link in the email, but they can report it to the IRS. Learn more about this scam and how to avoid it by <u>visiting the IRS website</u>.