

Huntley's Village Journal

April 15, 2020

Village of Huntley
10987 Main Street
Huntley, IL 60142

Village President
Charles H. Sass

Trustees
Ronda Goldman
Tim Hoeft
Niko Kanakaris
Harry Leopold
John Piwko
JR Westberg

Interim Village Manager
Lisa Armour

Important Village Phone Numbers

Village Hall:
847-515-5200

Water Billing:
847-515-5200

Public Works:
847-515-5222

Development Services:
847-515-5252

Police non-emergency:
847-515-5311

Police emergency dial 911

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newsletter

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www.huntley.il.us

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Huntley Calendar of Events

May 3 Huntley Kite Fest
May 4-15 Branch Pick Up
May 15 Public Works Open House
May 23 Weekly Outdoor Farmers Market begins
check www.huntley.il.us for details and updates

Village Services During Stay at Home Order

After careful consideration and to protect the health and wellness of our residents and employees, the Village made the decision to close Village Hall at 10987 Main Street and the Public Works building at 11000 Bakley Street to the public beginning March 19. This decision was based on guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of illness. Plans are in place for essential services such as water, wastewater and public safety to continue without incident. There will be no reduction in services for public safety and the Village encourages residents to conduct business online, via email, mail or phone when possible. Staff will continue to be available to maintain all essential operations and to serve our residents via email and telephone. Staff and Village Hall contact information may be found on our website at www.huntley.il.us or by calling 847-515-5200.

Police Department Lobby

The Police Department Lobby is open for emergency situations Monday-Friday from 8 am - 4 pm. We encourage people to call the non-emergency line at 847-515-5311 if possible instead of visiting the Police Lobby. Visitors that do come to the lobby must call on the red vestibule phone to speak to a Records Clerk or Dispatcher. They will try to help over the phone or admit the visitor into the lobby if necessary.

All non-emergency, not-in-progress crimes should be called in to the non-emergency number at 847-515-5311 to have the initial report taken via phone. For non-emergency situations, the dispatcher will take the required information and an officer will re-contact you as soon as possible via telephone to handle your call for service. Examples of non-emergency calls include but are not limited to: theft reports, damage to property, and fraud. Additionally, certain non-emergency issues can be reported using the new online police reporting program. Residents are encouraged to use this form of reporting these types of calls to help limit face-to-face interaction with the public on non-emergency calls. As a reminder, always call 911 in an emergency.

The Medication Drop Box located in the Police lobby is closed until further notice. To find alternative locations for this service, please see the DEA website (www.fda.gov). The Huntley Police Department (and many neighboring public safety agencies) have adjusted their response procedures. Dispatchers have begun asking additional questions regarding symptoms of COVID-19. This allows the first responders to use proper precautions when caring for our community.

Police officers will continue to physically respond to all high-priority, emergency, exigent, in progress calls that effect life safety issues. Again, always call 911 in an emergency or if you are in danger.

Utility Bill Payments

At this time, we are asking the public to conduct business online as much as possible. Utility bill customers wishing to pay their bill in-person can use the drop box located in the front drive aisle of the Municipal Complex at 10987 Main Street. You can also call 847-515-5200 to make a payment over the phone using Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. Requests for service may also be submitted online by navigating to the Finance Department home page on the Village website. The Village also offers an online payment option and automated bill payment program. Should you have any questions or require any Village services, please contact us at 847-515-5200.

Building Permits and Inspections

Building permits are now being processed through email. Permit applications and accompanying plans can be sent to inspections@huntley.il.us. In some instances, file sizes may be too large and will need to be sent via Dropbox. You will receive an e-mail from the Development Services Department confirming receipt of the permit application within one business day. If you do not receive an email or if you have questions, please call 847-515-5252.

Inspections of occupied homes have been suspended until further notice to limit direct contact between employees and residents. Additional inspections may be suspended or delayed depending upon the current situation. The Village will make every effort to ensure timely inspections, but for the safety of residents and inspectors, this may not always be possible.

Public Meetings

Please consider carefully whether or not to attend any meetings. Please use precautionary measures if you choose to attend a public meeting and stay home if you do not feel well. Village Board meetings are recorded and posted the following day for viewing on the Village's website. Please check the Village website at www.huntley.il.us to check the status of any regularly scheduled meetings.

For the additional details and the latest information, check the COVID-19 Updates news item at www.huntley.il.us.

Green & Clean Huntley Day Postponed

With the extension of the Governor's Stay at Home Order until April 30, Green & Clean Huntley Day has been postponed until October 10, 2020.

Additionally, the Arbor Day Tree Planting scheduled for April 24 has been postponed until a later date.

Be sure to check www.huntley.il.us and Facebook for updates on these events.



Curbside Tree Branch Pick Up

The Huntley Public Works and Engineering Department has scheduled its semi-annual curbside tree branch pickup for Village of Huntley residents.

Branch Pick Up Schedule:

Homes North of Kreutzer: Week of May 4

Homes in Sun City: Week of May 11

Branches must be placed on the parkway the Sunday before collection begins in each area. Please stack branches along the curb line so that the trunks (larger end of branch) are all facing the same direction, either towards the roadway or with traffic. Branch collection crews will make only one pass in each neighborhood. Branches put out after crews have passed will not be collected. Crews will not go on private property to pick up the branches.

Residents that miss the curbside pickup can make arrangements with their waste hauler. In addition, a Saturday one time only drop off is scheduled for May 16 at Public Works (located on Donald Drive) from 8 am to 12 pm. If you have additional questions, please contact the **Public Works and Engineering Department at 847-515-5222**.



Spring into Preparedness

As we approach spring, there is much to look forward to and plan for - including the possibility of severe weather. Severe weather can strike at any time, but we will be particularly vulnerable to tornadoes and storms in the upcoming months. The best way to stay safe during a tornado is to prepare now.



The first thing you will want to consider is how you will receive emergency alerts and warnings. There are multiple warning sirens throughout the Village that are activated in emergency situations such as a tornado warning. Please note that these sirens are designed to warn people who are outside and generally cannot be heard when indoors. Be sure to have other notification options available such as a NOAA all-hazard radio, wireless emergency alerts on your smart phone, Nixle alerts (go to www.nixle.com to sign up), or text or app alerts from the National Weather Service.

Next, make a shelter plan and communication plan for your family. If you are indoors, it should be a small, interior, windowless room on the lowest level of the building. Identify the best option in your home and workplace and make sure everyone knows about it. If you are caught in a car or outside during a tornado, cover your head and neck with your arms and cover your body with a coat or blanket if possible. Never try to outrun a tornado in your vehicle.

When making your plans, take into account the supplies you will need in the shelter. Consider medications, food, water, communication devices and any other special needs in your household.

Finally, be sure to discuss these plans with your family. You should review and practice your plans on a regular basis.

Shape Your Future

As of April 1, approximately 63% of our residents have already responded to the 2020 Census, which is well over the 39% response rate for all of Illinois. Keep up the good work! If you haven't responded yet, be sure to visit my2020census.gov to make sure you get counted!



Drop the Distractions While Driving

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), **distracted driving was a direct cause of vehicle crashes resulting 2,841 deaths in 2018.**

Among those killed: 1,730 drivers, 605 passengers, 400 pedestrians, and 77 bicyclists. Distracted driving includes any activity that takes the driver's attention away from operating the vehicle, including reaching for an item dropped between or under the seat, arguing with other passengers or children, applying makeup or shaving. While these activities may seem harmless, they still cause the driver to divert their attention from what is going on around them. Remember, **a vehicle traveling at 25 miles per hour covers almost 37 feet per second and when traveling at 45 miles per hour, 66 feet per second.** One second distracted can lead to a life of change.



Cell phones, or electronic communication devices as they are known in Illinois' law, are a main source of distraction in the vehicle. Per Illinois state law, "Electronic communication device" means an electronic device, including but not limited to, a hand-held wireless telephone, hand-held personal digital assistant, or a portable or mobile computer, but does not include gps/navigation systems or a device that is physically or electronically integrated into the motor vehicle. Whether it is looking for a contact to make a phone call, checking social media or trying to take that perfect driving "selfie," resisting the urge to use your cell phone is important to safe driving. It may be tempting to check that latest notification from your favorite app or text message, but recall the distances stated above.

State law on distracted driving (625 ILCS 5/12-610.1) states that a **driver may not use an electronic communication device while operating a vehicle on the roadway unless it is an emergency situation or they are using a "hands-free" device.** Holding your cell phone in your hand while it is on speaker phone does not count as "hands-free." As of July 2019, any ticket for using an electronic communication device while driving is a moving violation. Three moving violations in the course of one year will result in a suspension of one's license.

April is traditionally Distracted Driving Awareness Month, with an increase in education efforts well as increased enforcement efforts by law enforcement agencies including the Huntley Police Department. Due to COVID-19, the official campaign has been postponed this year. But we still ask that you do your part and pay attention to the road every second that you are driving. It may just save your or someone else's life.

MORE Brewing Opens

The owners (and brothers) of MORE Brewing, Sunny and Perry Patel, offer their heartfelt thanks to the enthusiastic crowds (totaling nearly 8000) who came out to experience MORE Huntley in their first week of business. The restaurant and brewery officially opened on February 29 and employs 70. Unfortunately, the COVID crisis hit all Huntley restaurants hard and MORE Brewing had to alter their operation and switch to food and beer delivery/pickup at this time. Take the night off from cooking, and order some amazing food, or stock up on some of MORE's award winning beers. Call or check the website for current services and hours.



Now more than ever, MORE Brewing and ALL Huntley restaurants need your support. Consult our **Huntley Restaurant Guide** at <https://bit.ly/2xbTGA0> for up to date info on our restaurants.

MORE Brewing Company

13980 Automall Drive, Huntley, IL 847-310-7530

www.morebrewing.com

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