

**Fire Department  
and Prevention**

**Station #46**

17355 South 68th Court  
Phone: (708) 444-5200  
Fax: (708) 444-5299

**Station #47**

7825 West 167th Street

**Station #48**

9191 West 175th Street

**Station #49**

7801 West 191st Street

**EMERGENCY  
PHONE**

**911**

**Village of Tinley Park**

Jacob C. Vandenberg, Mayor  
Kristin A. Thirion, Village Clerk

Trustees:

- Brian H. Younker
- Michael J. Pannitto
- Cynthia A. Berg
- William P. Brady
- Michael W. Glotz
- Michael J. Mangin

[www.tinleypark.org](http://www.tinleypark.org)



**SAVE THE DATE!!**

Annual Firemen's Dance  
January 20, 2018  
Odyssey Country Club

Discover Tinley  
April 7, 2018  
Tinley Park  
Convention Center

6th Annual  
Run for Your Life Safety 5K  
May 6, 2018  
80th Avenue - Metra Station

**Meet the Chief**

**Forest F. Reeder, Jr. Fire Chief**



Fire Chief Forest Reeder was appointed Tinley Park's Fire Chief in April 2017 and envisions the Department as an emerging leader in fire protection and emergency response. Reeder is a 38-year veteran of the fire service and has worked in volunteer, paid-on-call, part-time, contract and career departments. He has a Master of Science in Public Safety Administration and brings to our community over 20 years of Chief Officer knowledge with extensive experience in fireground command, incident safety and training. Chief Reeder believes that every goal is geared to make the Department better, faster, safer and smarter and we are proud to have him as our Chief!

**Wireless Fire Alarm Network In Service For 10 Years**

The wireless fire alarm monitoring network you subscribe to has been operational for 10 years now, providing reliable service for property owners and increasing the safety of our firefighters. For those who had been in Tinley Park prior to this system implementation, your fire alarm systems were transmitted by phone lines. During times of severe weather (excessive heat, cold, moisture etc.) phone lines were failing making alarm deficiencies difficult to diagnose. Additionally, the cost for these phone circuits was increasing frequently and depending on which portion of the Village your property was located, the costs varied.

The wireless fire alarm network was implemented in 2008 with the goals of providing reliable service at an affordable cost. The service on the equipment has been exceptional and for the life of the program the monthly fee has always been \$60. Due to a well managed program, in 2018 this fee and service will not change. In the upcoming year, radio transmitters will be evaluated by our vendor, Fox Valley Fire & Safety, to ensure continued reliability. They should properly identify themselves when they arrive at your property.

Lastly, we are doing our research about providing a redundant system which enhances reliability and allows for our dispatch personnel to have additional resources during their busy work schedule. Should this redundant system be implemented, our goal to provide reliable service while minimizing cost will be met.

**Adopt a Hydrant...Getting to Know Your Fire Hydrant!**



It is likely that a fire hydrant is located directly in front of your building or adjacent to it. During heavy snowfalls, hydrants can be buried making them inaccessible for fire department use. Please help the Tinley Park Fire Department keep hydrants clear of snow or anything around the hydrant that may obstruct its view and operation.

Over the past few years fire hydrants have been receiving noticeable maintenance. Our Public Works Department has contracted to have fire hydrants sandblasted to remove the old paint and primed white for the new paint; the distinctive yellow color. The caps of the hydrants depending on the size of the water main will have a specific color. The color codes give firefighters and public works employees the ability to know what size water main is feeding the hydrant. This matters for firefighters because it allows them to know what type of water pressure and how many gallons are available if we need it for a fire. The following colors indicate what size main is on your street. Can you tell what type of water main is on your street?

**6" Yellow 8" Blue 10" Green 12" Orange 16" Red 20" Brown 24" Grey 30" Purple**



## KNOX Boxes



Per Village Code and Section 506 of the 2012 International Fire Code, Knox boxes are required on all buildings inspected by the Tinley Park Fire Prevention Bureau. Keys that operate all doors (exterior/interior) for the common areas must be placed in the Knox box. This includes keys for the fire alarm system. If at any time the keys for any of the common area doors are changed, please notify the Tinley Park Fire Prevention Bureau at 708.444.5200. We will set up an appointment for you to meet an Inspector on location to place the new key(s) into the Knox box. For security purposes, keys cannot be dropped off at our offices.

## Fire Alarm and Fire Protection Equipment

### Locations



When the Tinley Park Fire Department is dispatched to your property for a fire signal activation, one of the initial actions taken by fire personnel is to locate the fire alarm control panel to identify what device activated. Not all buildings are the same so the location of this equipment varies. Fire alarm and fire protection equipment must always be visible and accessible to fire personnel. There should be no obstructions to gain access to this equipment and a 36" clear space around the equipment perimeter must be maintained.

If this equipment is housed in a closet or room, these areas need to be properly identified and accessible. "Fire Protection", "Fire Alarm" or "FACP" are common terms that should be affixed to the outside of these rooms. Keys to access these rooms should be available in the Knox box. When locks are changed, please notify the Tinley Park Fire Prevention office to have the updated keys placed in the Knox box. We can be reached at 708.444.5200.

As a reminder, ALL fire alarm and fire protection systems are required to be tested by a qualified contractor annually. Test documents are to be sent to [firedocs@tinleypark.org](mailto:firedocs@tinleypark.org) e-mail. Test documents regarding backflow prevention devices are to be sent to the Public Works Department. The Public Works Department can be contacted at 708.444.5500.

## Keep Your Buildings Properly Heated



By the time you have received this newsletter, we probably have already experienced a couple of cold days. For those properties with fire sprinkler systems, are your buildings properly heated? A frozen fire sprinkler system will not save any lives and will cause damage to your property. Ensure that your heating equipment is operating properly. Please ensure the entire building (including vacant spaces) has been

provided with adequate heat for the winter season. The temperature in the building should be ***no less than 60 degrees.***



## Fire Sprinklers Save Your Property and Your Money

Fire sprinklers are a very important part of your building. These valuable fire protection systems have been able to stop the

spread of fire in two instances in our Village in 2017. The first instance was at an unattended laundromat. This fire started in the early evening hours, and because of the fire sprinkler system and fire alarm activating, the fire was contained to a small area. The fire resulted in less than \$27,000 dollars in damage.

The second business to have a fire sprinkler save was at a medical laboratory. This fire started in the early morning hours during non-business hours. The fire was quickly extinguished due to the fire sprinkler system, as well as the fire alarm. The result of the fire caused minor disruption in business and was contained to one room.

In both instances the fire sprinkler activation signaled the fire alarm panel to relay a "water flow" alarm to the 911 Dispatch Center. This alerts the Fire Department prior to going on the call that a sprinkler head has activated. Please be sure to have the fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems tested annually by a qualified contractor and have the test documentation sent to the Tinley Park Fire Prevention Bureau at [firedocs@tinleypark.org](mailto:firedocs@tinleypark.org).

***Please do not silence an activated fire alarm system until the Fire Department can determine the cause.***

