

VILLAGE OF ORCHARD PARK 2025 NEWSLETTER



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Mayor Jo Ann Litwin Clinton

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Budget Director
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Comprehensive Plan

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Village Events and Celebrations
Youth Court
Zoning Board Liaison
Building Department Liaison
Village Code Review

Trustee Christine Popek

Town Tree Conservancy Liaison
WNY Railway Liaison
Policy and Procedure Review
Website Review
Beautification

*The Village Board meetings are held most 2nd
and 4th Mondays of the month at 7 pm (see
our website for complete schedule)*

4295 South Buffalo Street

Phone: 716-662-9327

Fax: 716-662-0891

Office Hours: 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Monday to Friday

***Please note: The new Village website address is
www.orchardparkvillageny.gov.***

Heather Tucciarone-Richeal
Clerk-Treasurer

Emery Wittmeyer
Manager of Public Works

Shannon Nichols
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

John Gullo
Code Enforcement Officer

Christine Hanavan
Part-Time Clerk
ZBA and Planning Secretary

A note from the mayor...

Let me start by thanking all of the Village residents for their support during this year's Village Elections. It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your Mayor for the last 10 years. As I look ahead to the next 4 years, I'm optimistic about the continued improvements to our Village and our goal of making this the best Village possible for residents and visitors alike.

In collaboration with the New York State Department of Transportation's repaving project along North and South Buffalo Street as well as East and West Quaker Street, we were able to stripe parking places, make improvements to the ADA ramps and most importantly, install colored crosswalks enhancing the safety and walkability of our streets. Additionally, the Village Board worked with Department of Transportation to pass a Local Law in September 2024 establishing a school zone speed limit on West Quaker Street during school hours. This law also introduced new signage to alert drivers of the school zone helping to ensure the streets, sidewalks and crosswalks near the Orchard Park Middle School are a safe place for pedestrians.

The Village has received two grants to create a Comprehensive Plan. The process is well on its way thanks to a dedicated Steering Committee working on the project. We have held one open house and look forward to another meeting with the public in the coming months. We have also received a grant from Erie County Legislator Mills for a Traffic Calming Study and are collaborating with GO Bike on a project. The goal of these projects is to make our community a more walkable, viable destination that will create a vibrant dynamic business district.

To keep our residents informed, we recently implemented a notification system through CivicPlus, which serves as an excellent tool for receiving urgent or emergency updates, weather alerts, and general Village notifications. Once registered, users can customize their preferences, choosing what types of notifications they wish to receive and how they want to receive them. For more information, please visit the Village website and follow the link to CivicPlus. We have also started a monthly e-newsletter, which residents can sign up for on our website.

Our planning for Village Events and Celebrations is well underway, with several exciting events scheduled for Summer and Fall 2025. The 4th of July Parade and Fireworks will kick off at 8:00 PM, departing from Orchard Park High School, proceeding along Route 20A, and ending at the Orchard Park Library, where the fireworks will begin at dusk. Quaker Days will follow, starting the week of July 20th. The Taste of Orchard Park will be held on Wednesday, July 23rd, from 5:30-9:30 PM at the Four Corners. Our Village Ice Cream Social and Fireworks display will take place on Friday, July 25th, from 6:00-9:00 PM on the lawn behind the Middle School. Lastly, the highly anticipated Village Street Dance featuring Nerds Gone Wild will be held on Saturday, July 26th, from 7:30-10:30 PM at the North East parking lot (behind Key Bank). Looking ahead to the fall, our annual Halloween in the Park event, which has grown tremendously over the past two years, is scheduled for Saturday, October 25th, from 2:00-5:00 PM on Princeton Place.

For more details on events and important Village updates, please visit the Village of Orchard Park website at www.orchardparkvillageny.gov, follow us on Instagram and Facebook (Village of Orchard Park) or sign up for our monthly e-newsletter.

The Village office has undergone some changes. Clerk-Treasurer Mary Beth Jensen retired at the end of March. Heather Tucciarone-Richeal has moved into the position of Clerk-Treasurer and Shannon Nichols is now the Deputy Clerk-Treasurer.

The Village Board of Trustees—Deputy Mayor Matthew Hartung, Dale Pyne, David Even, Christine Popek, and I—would like to extend our gratitude to the Village Department of Public Works, Building and Code Enforcement Officer, Village Clerk's Office and our Planning, Zoning and Steering committee members for their unwavering hard work and dedication to our community, day in and day out.

Best Regards,

Jo Ann Litwin Clinton, Mayor



Department of Public Works

716-662-3866

As we begin the Summer season, the Department of Public Works is already very busy keeping our Village beautiful. One of the large projects the DPW crew completed was the service line inventory as required by the NYS Department of Health.

The Department of Public Works is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and can be contacted at 716-662-3866; after hours contact the Orchard Park Police at 716-662-6444 and they will contact the proper personnel.

The two most visible services provided by the DPW are the curb side collection of brush and leaves and snowplowing of streets, sidewalks, and parking lots. There are a couple of guidelines regarding brush and leaf collection that assist us in being more efficient. Please stack all brush in the same direction with the cut ends facing the street. In the fall, leaves must be placed in separate piles free of sticks to allow us to use the vacuum machines for collection.

The Village restricts on-street parking from November 1 until April 1 to provide snowplowing service.

The department engages in many beautification projects throughout the Village. Along with the assistance of the Orchard Park Garden Club, we also plant and maintain the hanging baskets and flower boxes. You will notice additional planters and landscaping at the north and south end of the Village with the expansion of newly annexed properties into the Village. This program is funded through donations from local businesses and residents.

The other primary function of the DPW is infrastructure management. We have three major infrastructure systems that we are constantly monitoring and assessing. The most visible system is the 12.5 mile road network the Village owns. We have been utilizing a pavement preservation program to determine what road projects are necessary and completed.

In the 2025 paving season, the Village will be re-paving Crescent Drive, Chauncey Lane and applying a fog seal treatment to Stonehenge Drive and Court & Fox Meadow Lane and Court.

The water distribution system is made of 14.5 miles of pipe that supply safe drinking water to our residents twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The NYS Department of Health regulates our activities to ensure the safety of our water. We perform an annual interview with our representative from the Health Department to document that all requirements were completed for the previous year and determine what testing is required for the upcoming year. The Public Works Department employs six individuals that maintain a class D water license with New York State. For more information on the water quality, see the attached Annual Water Quality Report.

The third major network we maintain is the storm sewer conveyance system; it is made up of 17.25 miles of pipe and 683 drainage structures. This system carries clean water from our streets and parking lots to local water ways; there is no treatment of the water, and therefore pollution is a major concern. One source of pollution is sediment. To help prevent sediment buildup, we annually clean 50% of our system and remove the sediment.

We strive to improve the services provided and encourage feedback. Please contact us with both positive and negative comments so that we may advance the department.

We would also like to welcome our newest employee, Logan Griffin, to the Village DPW!



Beautification



Through the enthusiastic efforts of the Orchard Park Garden Club members, financial contributions, and the commitment of the Village DPW, we enjoy hanging flower baskets and planter boxes. Anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation to Beautify Orchard Park II (BOP II) may do so through the Village Office.

Building Department

716-662-9327

To protect all residents and property owners, Building Permits are required to assure compliance with the NYS Fire Prevention and Uniform Building Code and the Village of Orchard Park Municipal Code. Information and Permit applications can be found on our website (orchardparkvillageny.gov, Department Tab - Code Enforcement)

Residential and Commercial building permits are required for most repairs or installations. Please refer to our website for a list of some of the most common permits. Remember, when in doubt, contact the Village Office for clarification. Permits are required for everyone's safety. When submitting for a building permit, the plans should not be larger than 11x17. If they are, we ask for digital plans. This is in an effort to reduce the paper storage in the Village Office.

Permit fee schedule can also be found on the Village website. ***NOTE: If work commences prior to obtaining the required permit, the home or business owner will be charged an unpermitted work fee of \$500 plus the cost of the permit.***

Other Information:

- When doing a property split, the Village should review and approve prior to closing. This is critical since it may put the property in violation of the Zoning Ordinance. We provide a letter stating it is approved for closing.
- The Village amended the Trailer Ordinance. Briefly, it allows one trailer on the property and not to be placed in a required setback. Most people may not know what a required setback is - please refer to the Village website for more details or call the office.
- House numbers are required to be placed on all houses in the Village of Orchard Park. Numbers must be at least 4" high and visible from the street. Why do we ask this? Just imagine...you call 911 for an emergency and first responders cannot locate the house number.
- Recreational fires are permitted. Such fires must burn only seasoned firewood, must be a minimum of 15 ft. from structures, and must NOT produce smoke that is offensive or objectionable. A method of extinguishing the fire must be available. Such fires must be constantly attended until distinguished. Open burning of combustibles other than seasoned firewood is PROHIBITED.
- Coming Soon... We are working on having building permits completed online to streamline the process for certain projects. Once the process is tested and ready, there will be public announcements informing everyone.

John Gullo, Village Code Enforcement Officer, will answer questions and help with the permit process. He is available Monday - Thursday, 8:30 am - 10:30 am or by appointment.

Special Events

Special Events held within the Village require an Event Contract and Village Board Approval. Special Event Permits are now available on the website and can be completed electronically if it meets the criteria. For questions regarding Special Events, please visit the Village website or contact the Village Office at 716-662-9327.

Village Water Bills

Most homes in the Village are serviced through the Village Water Department. Billing is quarterly and bills should be received early in the month of January, April, July, and October. Payment is due approximately 30 days after the mail date without penalty.

Village Planning Board

The dedicated volunteers who presently serve on the Village Planning Board are Chairman Gunner Tronolone, Myrna Woodard, Krista Ehler, Mark Gerwitz, along with alternates Chris Reichert, Monica Bruce, and Kevin Crane. Christine Hanavan is the Secretary. The board reviews permit applications in residential and non-residential zones, all referrals to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and any other or matters referred by the Code Enforcement Officer or the Village Board. All permit applications must be submitted to the Village Office no later than noon on the Tuesday, one week prior to the meeting date. The Code Enforcement Officer and the Planning Board Secretary can be reached at the Village Office and will be happy to assist you through the process. Meetings are held in the Municipal Center the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm as needed.

Village Zoning Board of Appeals

The Village Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) is also comprised of dedicated volunteers: Chairman Steve Snyder, Gary Phillips, Bill Riter, Scott Hartung, Peter Freyer, and alternate Scott Shular. Christine Hanavan is the Secretary. The Village Code Enforcement Officer reviews all permit applications to determine if variances to the Village's Municipal Code are needed. If a variance is required, the applicant completes a Zoning Board of Appeals application and a public hearing is scheduled. This application goes in front of the Planning Board initially. Please follow Planning Board submittal requirements. A public hearing is published in the Orchard Park Bee and notices are sent to all property owners within 200' of the subject property. At the public hearing, the ZBA reviews the application and interested parties are given the opportunity to express concerns. The ZBA, which must follow specific criteria for granting any variance, then votes on the requested variance. Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday after the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm as needed.

Police, Fire, Emergency (911)

OP Non-Emergency Number: 716-662-6444

The police station is located in the back of the Municipal Center. Police Chief Patrick Fitzgerald and his very competent detectives and police officers are always available to serve and protect us. The police department uses an enhanced 911 emergency calling system that helps locate the origin of any call received. The appropriate police, fire, or medical emergency personnel are then sent in response.

Emergency Management

Be Smart. Take Part. Create your Family Emergency Communication Plan.

Creating your Family Emergency Communication Plan starts with one simple question: "What if?" "What if something happens and I'm not with my family?" "Will I be able to reach them?" "How will I know they are safe?" "How can I let them know I'm OK?"

During a disaster, you will need to send and receive information from your family. Planning starts with three easy steps:

1. Collect Information 2. Share Information 3. Practice your communication plan

The Village also utilizes a Community Notification System with CivicPlus to alert residents of important information such as weather-related events and emergency closures. For more information or to sign up to receive these alerts, please visit the Village Website Homepage.

**** Did you know? The Orchard Park Police Department utilizes a Vacant House Card if you will be away from your residence for more than 7 days. You can complete a card and place it on file with the department ****

Orchard Park Helpful Numbers

Recreation

Yates Park

For Shelter Rentals: 716-662-6450

Chestnut Ridge Park: 716-662-3290

For Shelter Rentals: 716-858-8355

Senior Citizens

Community Activity Center: 716-662-6452

Meals on Wheels: 716-822-2002

Meals on Wheels (local distribution): 716-662-7178

Senior Citizen Van: 716-662-8378

Senior Nutrition: 716-662-6452 (Option #3, Kitchen Manager)

Youth

Boys & Girls Club: 716-662-1941

Town Recreation: 716-662-6450

YMCA - Southwestern Blvd.: 716-674-9622

Orchard Park Central School District

opschools.org

- General Information, 4040 Baker Rd. - 716-209-6200
- South Davis Elementary, 55 S. Davis St. - 716-209-6246
- Eggert Elementary - 3580 Eggert Rd. - 716-209-6215
- Windom Elementary - 3870 Sheldon Rd. - 716-209-6279
- Ellicott Elementary - 5180 Ellicott Rd. - 716-209-6278
- OP Middle School - 60 S. Lincoln Ave. - 716-209-6220
- OP High School - 4040 Baker Rd. - 716-209-6242
- Community Education - 2240 Southwestern Blvd. - 716-209-6295

Orchard Park Library

4570 S. Buffalo St. - 716-662-9851

The Orchard Park Library is part of the Erie County Library System. It's located at the corner of Highland Ave. and S. Buffalo St.

Orchard Park Post Office

60 School St. - 716-662-4110

The Orchard Park Post Office is located on School Street between South Buffalo Street and South Lincoln Avenue.

Utilities

Water

Village of
Orchard
Park

716-662-9327

Sewer

Erie
County

716-823-8188

Electric

NYSEG

Service
1-800-572-1111

Outages
1-800-572-1131

Gas

National
Fuel

Service
716-686-6123

Emergency
1-800-444-3130

Things You Can Do To Prevent Stormwater Pollution

- Use Your Runoff: Direct downspouts onto your lawn or garden or install a rain barrel.
- Scoop the Poop: Remove pet waste promptly to keep bacteria out of our waterways.
- Dispose Waste Properly: If it's not rain or snowmelt, it should not be in a storm sewer - never dispose chemicals, paint, or treated pool/spa water in storm drains/ditches.
- Keep a Healthy Lawn: Aerate and mow at a higher setting. A healthy, vigorous lawn needs less watering and fewer chemicals.
- Adopt a Storm Drain: Keep neighborhood storm drains and ditches free of leaves, seeds and grass clippings.

Garbage & Recycling

www.wm.com

Waste Management is contracted to provide garbage and recycling collection for all one, two and three family homes in the Village. All Garbage/Trash must be contained in provided carts. If you have additional trash that cannot fit in the cart, garbage tags can be purchased in the Village Office. A list of garbage and recycling guidelines can be found on the Village website (orchardparkvillage.org) or picked up at the Village Office.

GARBAGE: Our collection day is FRIDAY – all refuse and recycling must be within five feet of the roadside by 6:30 am. Bulk items will be collected the first Friday pickup of every month (2 item limit). Tags can be purchased in the Village Office for additional bulk items. Waste Management observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day; collection will be on a Saturday that week (UNLESS THE HOLIDAY FALLS ON A SUNDAY!).

RECYCLING: Recycling will be collected every other Friday. A schedule is available in the Village Office or on our website. Additional recycling carts are available at no charge – please call the Village Office. Important recycling information can also be found on our website.

Carts should be placed 4 ft. from any obstacles such as other carts and mailboxes.

DAMAGED CARTS: If your garbage or recycling tote becomes damaged (broken lid, missing wheels, etc.), please call the Village Office, 716-662-9327, and the Village DPW will make the repair.

AT YOUR DOOR SPECIAL COLLECTION SERVICE



Waste Management offers a convenient service in our community to collect household hazardous items, electronics and more. You can find more information including a list of eligible materials on our website under the 'Waste & Recycling' tab.

To schedule a pick-up, please visit www.wmatyourdoor.com or call 1-800-449-7587.

Selling a Property in the Village?

A sewer inspection is required for any property changing ownership in the Village of Orchard Park. The cost of the inspection is \$75.00, payable to "Village of Orchard Park." Please contact the Village Office when selling a property and we will notify Erie County Division of Sewerage Management to schedule the inspection. Once completed, we will issue a Certificate of Compliance.

Village Justice Court

716-662-6415

The Village Court is in session the first Thursday of each month at 4 pm in the court room of the Municipal Center. The Village Court is represented by Village Justice James C. Cosgrove, Prosecutor Charles Messina, and Philip M. Marshall, the Village Attorney.

Driveway Plowing & Sidewalk Safety

Village residents and/or property owners must not permit snow from private property to be placed on or stored on a Village Right of Way (ROW) or street. Due to the severity of previous winters, and on several occasions, the DPW has had to remove snow placed in the ROW in order for the street to be properly plowed. To date, this snow removal has been completed at the Village expense, but in the future, this work may be charged to the property owner. If notified, property owners will be given an opportunity to remove the snow immediately. If the snow is not removed, it will be removed by the Village and the cost will be added to the property tax bill. To prevent occurrences such as this, we recommend the property owners discuss this law with the person or contractor that may place snow on a ROW.

Keep in mind that the ROW includes sidewalks and extends beyond the street pavement. Sidewalks are also required to be cleared and unobstructed from snow or ice. The law provides that sidewalks must be maintained in a safe condition and that responsibility for any needed repairs can rest with the owner of the property that adjoins the sidewalks.

If the Village received notice that a sidewalk is unsafe, the Village will complete an inspection and then notify the owner of the needed repairs and a timeline for completion. If the repairs are not undertaken, the Village may perform the repairs and assess the cost to the adjoining landowner.

As a reminder, the Village DPW clears the sidewalks throughout the Village as a courtesy. Salting remains the responsibility of the homeowner.

Annual Water Quality Report

Enclosed please find a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report, complying with State & Federal regulations. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and raise awareness of the need to protect our drinking water sources. Additional information is available in the Village Office, or at www.ecwa.org

2025 Village Events

Quaker Arts Pavilion Concert Series: 716-662-7387

Independence Day Parade: 716-662-3366
8 pm start



Taste of Orchard Park: 716-662-3366
Wednesday, July 23rd
5:30 – 9:30 pm



Ice Cream Social: 716-662-9327
Friday, July 25th – 6:00 – 9:00 pm – Quaker Arts Pavilion



Street Dance (Nerds Gone Wild): 716-662-9327
Saturday, July 26th – 7:30 – 10:30 pm – KeyBank Parking Lot

Halloween in the Park: 716-662-9327
Saturday, October 25th – 2:00 – 5:00 pm



This Newsletter is enclosed with your Village Tax Bill "by order of the Orchard Park Village Board of Trustees."