

# village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL 38 NO5

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

SEPT, 2022

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## SUMMER IS OVER!!!

Well, almost. But the warm weather will continue as we gradually move into the autumn season. It is true that many people "hole up" during the hot summer days, and emerge like groundhogs in the Spring once Labor Day arrives. If you are in that category, then it is time to get out there and start resuming your active participation in life.

Get out there and start walking and moving around. Maybe you should consider joining a local organization, club or committee. There is more to life than sitting at your computer or watching TV. And, our local groups would be happy to see YOU.

The Nature Preserve trail and boardwalk are nearly done; but, we still need to erect signage and clear-out much of the invasive plants. We will need YOUR HELP in planting native plants, shrubs, trees and wildflower seeds - which will probably take place later in the fall. If you are interested, please leave your name and contact information at

envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org

What is coming up in our Village? Planting fall vegetables, flowers and mums; Fall clean-ups; Decorating for Halloween; The Village Street Fair on September 17th; The Swap & Shop event at Brewster Park on Sept. 24th; The Health Fair at the K of C on Oct 1st; Veterans Day ceremonies on November 11th on Euclid Avenue; Thanksgiving; and the Village Christmas Tree Lighting on Sunday, December 4th. Enjoy every moment of these up-coming autumn days.

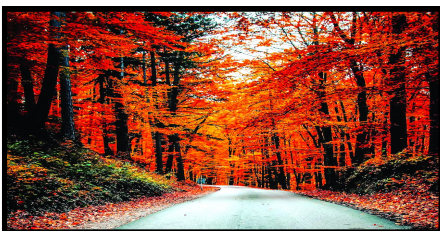
**Commissioner William Gerken**

**Commissioner Mark Olson**

**Commissioner Wanda Portorreal**

**Commissioner Adam MacNeill**

**John Anlian, Mayor**



## BOARD OF RECREATION

The RP Board of Recreation is here to help offer programs to our Village residents. The list below represents what is in the mix this season, but we are always thinking about what else may make RP an even better place to live and we are always willing to listen to our Village residents if they have any ideas they would like to share. Check our page on the Village website at

[www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation) for all registration forms and current information.

Have a question? Send us an email (fastest method) and we'll respond as soon as possible.

Email: [boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org).

Our voice mail is (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

Please remember we are VOLUNTEERS and will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Archery Clinic** - Open to those 6 years old and up. The fall session will run from September 17, 2022 - November 19, 2022 - "No archery on October 15th because of the Wanda Canoe Club's 6th annual race on the Hackensack behind the DPW. Also no archery on October 29th because everyone will be at the Rag-A-Muffin Parade..."

Clinic will be held on Saturday mornings in three sessions: 9:00 - 9:45 10:00 - 10:45 11:00 - 11:45. Registration fee is \$25.00.

Bring your registration form (download at <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/pages/2022-fall-archery-registration-form>) and fee to the first session. Held behind the DPW at 24 Industrial Avenue.

**Tennis** - The program will run on Saturdays, September 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8 at Fellowship Park. Cost is \$85.00. Residents may contact Barry Ruback at [barrys10s@gmail.com](mailto:barrys10s@gmail.com) or 201-568-3946 with any questions. Children 6 and up are welcome to join in the fun. Download the form at: <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/pages/2022-fall-tennis-registration-form>

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 2:00 - 3:00 pm | 6 - 8 years old,    |
| 3:00 - 4:00 pm | 9 - 11 years old    |
| 4:00 - 5:00 pm | 12 years old and up |

**Rag-A-Muffin Parade** - Dress 'em up and march them down to the Fellowship Park tennis courts and we will celebrate the spooky season with a costume contest for the kids as well as food carts, DJ and a magician!! This year the parade is Saturday, October 29, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. sharp. Registration is 10:30 a.m. Rain date Sunday, October 30 @ 1:30 p.m.

Prizes to be awarded and goodies for every child! Info and registration form, go to:

<https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/pages/2022-rag-muffin-flyer-registration-form>.

**T2S Basketball** - The skills program is run by Larry Umana and Nate Lopez. For further information, interested people can email [t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com](mailto:t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com) or

**Basketball** - Check

<https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation> for up-to-date information and registration forms for this activity. Rec will be following state covid protocols if any are in effect. Registration Dates and Locations: Friday, Sept. 23, 2022 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Civic Center (upstairs) 159 Park Street. Clinic is available for students in grade 2 and basketball teams are available for grades 3-8. Fee: \$55.00 per child; \$45.00 for each additional child. Fee for any registration submitted after Sept. 25 is \$75.00 each. Registration closes on October 25. Mail or drop off late registrations to the Clerk's Office at 234 Main Street.

Evaluations will be at Lincoln School as follows: Tues., Nov. 1 - 3rd/4th & 5th/6th Boys at 6:30 p.m.; Wed., Nov. 2 - All Girls at 6:30 p.m. - 7:15 P.M. and Wed., Nov. 3 - 7th/8th Boys 7:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**Big Mike's 3 v 3 Co-Ed Basketball**

**League - Fall 2022 Season** - This is a new adult activity named in honor of Mike O'Neill who was a pillar of this community and spent many years on the sidelines and fields of RP giving of his time to coach his children as well as many others.

Eligibility: Men 25 years and older / Women 21 years or older  
Roster Size: 5-7 Players  
We encourage each team to have at least one woman participating (if at all possible) We'd like Ridgefield Park and Little Ferry residents as first options but we're okay with up to two people who live outside of those towns participating.  
Game Night: Mondays Location: Lincoln School Gym  
Game Times: 6:30 P.M. / approximately 7:15 P.M. / approximately 8:00 P.M. and approximately 8:45pm Regular Season  
Dates: September 12, 19, 26 October 3, 10, 17 & 24  
Playoff Dates: November 7 and 14  
Cost: \$350 Per Team. Check made payable to RP Board of Recreation and drop off or mail your packet to the Clerk's Office. The first 8 teams to sign up will be the participants for our inaugural season and there are only a couple of spots remaining as of mid-August. Flyer:

<https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/news/big-mikes-3-v-3-adult-basketball-league-registration-form>.

**Saturday Night Hoops** - Late fall through late-winter the high school boys and girls, 9th - 12th grade, can join the Rec basketball league for Saturday night games at the high school. Tryout date and times: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M. - LINCOLN SCHOOL. Check our website <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/pages/saturday-night-hoops-2022-registration-form-info> for updated info and registration forms.

**Tree Lighting** - If you have not brought your child to one of these, you're missing out on the holiday fun. It may be cold as heck, but it does not stop us from celebrating the season. There are holiday songs as well as a raffle for a special prize and a summer camp enrollment and a jolly old man in a red suit will be helping to light the village Christmas tree! It all happens on Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

Please check the website at <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/news/tree-lighting-flyer-2022> and municipal message board for updated information.

**Holiday Wish Tree** - It is all about giving not receiving and we sponsor this program so that those who are fortunate enough to give can give to those who need it. By Thanksgiving weekend, you can select your ornament at <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation> The tree is located outside

the Clerk's office and you can also stop there for an ornament. You need to return your gift by December 14, 2022. Your gift will then be delivered to a very appreciative child. Thanks again for your assistance!

To see the flyer, go to: <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/news/wish-tree-info-2022>

**Holiday Display Contest** - We review the holiday display of those who choose to participate and award prizes to the best of the best! This year judging will be done beginning at dusk on December 16, 17 & 18. Just a note for participants, photos are kept of past winners. Decorations must be changed significantly from the previous year in order to receive a prize the following year. The registration form is available at:

<https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/news/holiday-display-contest-flyer-registration-form-2022>.

This year, we're continuing the Citizens' Choice Award where the winner will be chosen by the residents of Ridgefield Park. Here's how it will work. Those homes participating should have their display lit on December 16 -18. The Board of Recreation will supply the addresses of all participating in the contest to any resident who would like to be a "judge". After viewing the entries, the "judge" must send in their vote (you can only vote once) by December 19. Email us for the addresses entered in the contest. For the flyer, go to: <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation/news/citizens-choice-award-flyer-2022>. After the contest, check for winners on <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/node/25/news> and the community message board. You must register by December 14 to be included in the contest. Email, drop off or mail the forms to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. **YOU MUST REGISTER IF YOU ARE RESIDENTIAL OR BUSINESS.**

Adult and Family Events - keep checking our page at <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/board-recreation> for updated info on available group tickets that may come up throughout the year.

**Ping Pong** - this is a possible activity the Board is trying to start up for adults. Let us know if you're interested in an adult session for ping pong fans to meet at the Civic Center and play a game or two. No cost to participate!

**DON'T FORGET:** All Board of Recreation meetings are open to the public. They are held on the third Thursday of the

month at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center at 159 Park Street. Anyone with any questions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting.

## RIDGEFIELD PARK SENIOR CLUB

The Senior Club meets at 1pm on the first and third Tuesday of every month at the Civic Center, 159 Park Street.

Refreshments are served after each meeting. It gives seniors a chance to meet, chat, exchange ideas, make new friends, and have some fun. Programs and concerts are offered once a month; and annual parties and trips are planned. Membership is open to all Ridgefield Park - current and past - residents 55 years of age and older. **NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!!**

## "LITTLE LIBRARY. BIG IMPACT."

In 2009, a man named Todd Bol deconstructed a garage door and fashioned something odd - a small house on a stick that held books. This was the first Little Free Library in the United States, and what began as a tribute to Bol's bookworm mother soon spread throughout the nation - and beyond. Currently, there are 150,000+ Little Libraries across the globe.

The most common model is a wooden box on an elevated post, but many people like to get creative with their designs (check out [littlefreelibrary.org](http://littlefreelibrary.org) for some great ideas!). They contain reading material for all ages, spanning all genres. Anyone can, free of charge, take a book; however, they have to leave one in its place. This policy of "take a book, leave a book" is what keeps the Little Library going and consistently provides different reading material. There's already one Little Library in Ridgefield Park, located in Fellowship Park. It's very well used, and RP is looking for volunteers to make more for the community! If you're interested, please contact the Ridgefield Park Green Team ([greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org)). They'll also have a table at the RP Street Fair on September 17th- feel free to stop by!





## RIDGEFIELD PARK NATURE PRESERVE NEWS!!!

The Village of Ridgefield Park's Nature Preserve is nearing completion. There is additional signage currently on order including a series of educational signs featuring local wildlife and ecological information about the preserve. We also need to clean out all of the weeds and invasive plants that have filled the planting beds over the summer and preserve the beds for planting with a layer of mulch. This fall will be planting season, and the newly-formed Ridgefield Park Nature Association will need plenty of volunteers to help bring the Nature Preserve to life next spring. You can join the Ridgefield Park Nature Association by contacting [envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org) or leave your name and contact info at the Clerk's Office. Members of the Association will participate in nature programs and events and help out in maintaining the preserve. We are looking forward to a formal opening of the preserve in Spring 2023, and are eager to present the people of Ridgefield Park with a space for recreation, education, and discovery.

## WHO IS THE GREEN TEAM

The Green Team leverages the skills and expertise of team members and works with groups and organizations within the Village to develop plans, implement programs and assist with educational opportunities that help coordinate the sustainability of the community.

We will be at the following local events and look forward to meeting you.

Street Fair, Saturday, September 17th.

Swap & Shop/Materials Reuse Green Team Event. Brewster Park Saturday, September 24th, rain date September 25th.

Health Fair, Knights of Columbus, Saturday, October 1st.

Paper Shredding, Hard Plastics Recycling and Food Pantry Box of Cereal Donation, DPW, Saturday, November 12th.

Interested in improving Ridgefield Park through sustainable programs, please join an upcoming meeting. Thursday, September 22nd, Thursday, October 27th, Thursday, November 24th, Thursday, December 22nd. They are held on 3rd Floor of Municipal Building, 234 Main Street.

## SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Love those trees and their shade!

During the summer heat wave, the cooling effect of trees became obvious to Ridgefield Park residents! Temperatures in the shade ranged 10-20 degrees cooler than the high 90's and 100 degrees in the sun evidenced by bus riders cooling under trees, park visitors cooling in the shade and walkers cooling on shady streets.

In addition to this very real positive impact on the Village, trees provide other benefits: USDA indicates trees can reduce AC needs by 30 percent and save 20-50 percent in energy for heating

A US Forest Study found that property values increase more if there are trees. The STC encourages support and cooperation from property owners in taking care of this important Village asset. First, even in the fall, a reminder to continue to fill the Gator bags; Also, young trees planted in recent years as well as mature trees need regular watering (a deep soaking once a week) during hot dry periods. Do not use lawn movers, weed whackers or weed killers near trees. Any of these can severely damage a tree.

**Central Avenue Project** New curbs and road paving on Central necessitated removal of some street trees, but 2023 spring planting will locate new trees in appropriate sites along Central Avenue. **Utility Lines and Trees**

The STC has consulted with DPW and PSE&G about residents' concerns regarding trees and utility lines. If there are tree branches around the house drop (wires from utility pole to house) lines, contact DPW to request them to trim branches away from drop lines to remove hazards. However, DPW because of safety rules cannot work on tree branches around the utility lines which go from pole to pole.

If there is a concern or a dangerous situation with branches in the utility lines going from pole to pole call the PSE&G customer service line to request line clearing. The customer service number provided by PSE&G is: 1-800-436-7734.

### Tree Species in Spotlight

The spotlight this issue is on the Scarlet Oak, *Quercus coccinea*, a medium to large tree that can reach 70 to 80 feet in height with a single trunk 2 to 3 feet in diameter. The Scarlet Oak is similar to the red oaks. There are bright red flowers that hang on slender catkins 3" to 4" long. Its acorns are a favorite food for large birds, chipmunks, and squirrels. Brilliant red or scarlet autumn fall leaves make it a frequent choice along streets and in yards.

To Contact STC with questions and concerns, email [shadetreecomm@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:shadetreecomm@ridgefieldpark.org), or call 201-641-4950 ext. 640 leaving name & contact info., tree issue and address of tree. You will be contacted after the issue is discussed at the STC meeting; meetings are at 7:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room in Town Hall the fourth Monday of the month, except for December when the meeting is the second Monday. Join the STC and help keep the Village beautiful. Interested? Contact information above. Hope to see you.

**DESTROY ANY SPOTTED LANTERNFLY YOU SEE! THEY CAN DAMAGE OR KILL MORE THAN 70 VARIETIES OF TREES, SHRUBS AND OTHER PLANTS ACCORDING TO RUTGERS UNIVERSITY EXPERTS.**



## HOUSEHOLD BATTERY RECYCLING AT THE DPW

Your recycling center now has a place to deposit certain types of used household batteries. The drop off box is in the same container as the plastic bag recycling bins at 24 Industrial Avenue.

Acceptable battery types are listed below. Place batteries in plastic bags that are sealed. Plastic bags are provided at the drop off location. Seal the bag(s) and place them in the container. 9V batteries have raised terminals and they must be taped before putting them in the bag.

### Acceptable Batteries

#### No Defective or Damaged Batteries

#### Rechargeables:

Lithium Ion (Li-Ion)  
Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd)  
Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH)  
Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn)  
Small Sealed Lead Acid (SSLA/Pb)

#### Single Use (alkaline)

AA, AAA, 9V\*, C, D and button  
\*tape to cover raised terminal  
Lithium Primary

## DPW NEWS

As fall is about to start and leaf season is just around the corner, here are a few reminders about how to put leaves out to the street for pickup.

A. They must come from your property and put in the street next to the curb that surrounds your property. You can not put the leaves on town property (parks, lots or town buildings). If you want to put it on your curb strip. That is acceptable however, debris must be in a barrel no bigger than 35 gallons or in the brown lawn bags.

1. Sticks, branches, limbs, logs, plants, bushes, vegetable garden, debris, are not permitted in piles.

2. Please keep kids and pets out of leaf piles. Our workers cannot see if anyone may be in the piles and this can lead to serious injury or death.

3. Don't Park cars on top of piles, this can cause a fire.

4. Try to get the leaves done before the first snow fall.

5. Make sure that the pile is all the way into the street so the pusher can do its job. If it is on the sidewalk or the apron of the driveway the leaves will not be able to be pushed correctly and will leave unwanted debris behind.

Please keep in mind that during the heavy part of leaf season the sweeper can only pick up so much and may leave some debris behind. In advance, we thank you for your patience.

As of January 1, 2023, we will be fully enforcing the rules that are already **existing and** may possibly make some small changes on how garbage, yard waste, trash and recycling is put out at the curb. We are trying to avoid having our garbage loads refused at the dump site as well as avoid being charged for contaminated recycling and bulk waste on regular garbage days. Another reason, but most important reason for this is we have had employees get hurt because rules were not followed. "We will be at the street fair having one-on-one conversations and answering any questions you may have even if they don't pertain to garbage." Please visit our table at the street fair on Main Street on September 17, 2022. We will be in front of the municipal building. Our goal is to educate the public of proper garbage, recycling, and yard waste disposal. We will be there to have one-on-one conversations with the residents and to answer any questions you may have even if it doesn't pertain to garbage. We hope to see you there!

## FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE.....

### COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

The Board of Commissioners of the Village of Ridgefield Park, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act NJSA 10:4-6 et seq., has established their Caucus and Regular meeting dates for the year 2022. The Caucus Meetings will be held on the Thursday preceding each Regular Meeting, unless otherwise indicated, at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Building, 234 Main Street, Third Floor. Regular meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise indicated, at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Building, 234 Main Street, Third floor

Remaining 2022 Meetings:

#### 2022 Caucus Meeting Dates:

September 8 and 22

October 6 and 20

November 3 and 22

December 8 and 22

#### 2022 Regular Meeting Dates:

September 13 and 27

October 11 and 25

November 10 and 22

December 13 and 27

### RAFFLES

All Clubs, Organizations, PTAs or Individuals that conduct 50/50's, tricky trays, basket raffles, bingo, casino nights, or any other type of raffle must register with the State of New Jersey Legalized Games of Chance Commission to obtain an Identification Number. Only after obtaining this ID number can you apply for a raffle license.

The State will not issue a raffle license unless **you are a registered organization.** To register: [www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/lgcc](http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/lgcc)

**RAFFLE LICENSE APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED FOR EACH RAFFLE YOU CONDUCT.**

Raffle license applications are available in the Village Clerk's office. Applications must be completed six (6) weeks prior to your raffle. Failure to comply can result in your event being shut down.

### PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Property Tax Payments can now be made online using a debit/credit card, or your bank account information. There will be convenience fees charged for this service.

The convenience fee is charged by the provider and not the Village. To make a payment, visit the Village website: [www.ridgefieldpark.org](http://www.ridgefieldpark.org) and click on the link: "Make online property tax payments"

When making tax payments, by mail or in person, please submit your entire tax bill for receipting purposes. If making payments by mail, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you request a receipt.

**\*\*THERE IS A DROP BOX LOCATED IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT LOBBY FOR TAX PAYMENTS. PLEASE - NO CASH PAYMENTS.**

## "NATIVE MILKWEED KNOCKS OUT LANTERNFLIES"

Most people have heard about spotted lanternflies - an invasive species that is currently spreading throughout the U.S. The growth of their population stands to compromise America's wood and fruit supply, and it's our duty to ensure this doesn't occur. States are urging people to kill lanternflies to stop the spread. There's even a campaign here in New Jersey called "Stomp it Out"! The slogan is now on billboards across the state.

Scientists who've been studying this phenomena have found that there are additional things you can do to stop the spread of these pests. One would be removing any Trees of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), the lanternflies' host plant/tree in your area. Another would be planting native flowers - particularly milkweed, the host plant for the monarch butterfly! Developing research shows that the chemicals in milkweed are poisonous to the lanternflies. Moreover, when monarch butterflies eat milkweed, the same chemicals protect the monarchs because predators are less likely to eat them. Planting milkweed will help monarch butterflies survive and assist in driving lanternflies away from our community by taking away their food/breeding grounds.

If you're unsure of which type to go with, choose Common milkweed or Swamp milkweed! Also visit [justoneplant.weebly.com/meet-the-plants.html](http://justoneplant.weebly.com/meet-the-plants.html) for more native plant options!



## PUBLIC ART MEETING

On October 5th at 7:30pm in the Civic Center there will be a meeting to discuss public art in the village. Major items on the agenda are summer 2023 concerts, winter 2022/2023 concerts, art in our parks, the Grove Street public seating & busking area and other smaller potential projects around the village. Come and be a part of guiding public art in our village.

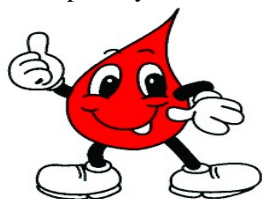


## HEALTH FAIR/BLOOD DRIVE ON OCTOBER 1, 2022 BEGINNING AT 9:00 A.M.

The Ridgefield Park Green Team, together with St. Francis and the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court 2271 and the K of C, will be hosting the annual Health Fair and Blood Drive. The Health Fair will be located upstairs at 106 Park Street from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. while the Blood Drive will take place downstairs from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. We've updated this year's Health Fair to try to include a little something for all ages. Here are just a few examples: nutrition, dental exams, flu as well as pneumonia and covid vaccines, palliative care, wellness info, healthy cleaning products, mental health, legal documents for health care, info from the Brain Injury Alliance as well as info from Bergen's Promise to help families with different concerns. Demonstrations: foam roller demo, how to set up a first aid kit, physical therapy, asthma van, how ambulance equipment works, CPR sign-ups. For the kids: The opportunity to go inside an ambulance, see the equipment, meet the EMT and learn they're just another community helper!! Local honey and products will be offered for sale. Meet the local health officer from Mid Bergen Regional Health Commission and see all that is offered to village residents.

Attending this year's Health Fair is a great way to meet new people and medical professionals from all types of medical fields. You will also gain some helpful advice and education on different types of treatments available to you. In just a few short hours, you will also learn about a variety of health programs that can help you improve your health and put you on the road to living and maintaining a healthier lifestyle. Turn the morning into a fun gathering with your friends while learning more about your health.

Remember the health fair is meant to be a one-stop-shop that will provide you with easy access to information and presenters who may have something to offer you in the way of materials and free items that you can use to improve your health.



If you wish to receive any of the available vaccines, please be sure to bring your insurance card and ID. For additional information, please email: [greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org). Also, during this year's Health Fair, we will also be hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross at the K of C building lower level which will run from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Here's the link to sign up for the [blood drive](https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/dri-ve-results?zipSponsor=Greenteam).

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/dri-ve-results?zipSponsor=Greenteam>. You may also call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit <https://www.redcrossblood.org/> and enter: Greenteam to schedule an appointment. Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients. If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://www.redcrossblood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

### NOVEMBER 12TH EVENT PAPER SHREDDING, HARD PLASTICS RECYCLING AND CEREAL DONATION FOR FOOD PANTRY

On Saturday, November 12th from 9am-1pm bring your confidential papers for shredding, any hard plastics that you want to get rid of to the DPW located at 24 Industrial Avenue.

And join us in helping our community's Food Pantry by dropping off a box of breakfast cereal.

Hard plastics or bulky rigid plastics are those that cannot go in curbside recycling on Wednesdays and are challenging for recyclers to collect, process, and manage. Here's what you can bring to the DPW on November 12th:

plastic tables and chairs  
lawn furniture  
laundry baskets  
buckets  
crates  
storage containers and lids  
garbage cans and lids  
children's play sets  
plastic toys that are missing pieces or broken

The Ridgefield Park DPW and Green Team will continue to provide residents with recycling opportunities and sustainability education. Please contact [greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org](mailto:greenteam@ridgefieldpark.org) with questions or if you are interested in joining us.



## CHIEF JOSEPH RELLA RIDGEBLVD PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT



### School is Open, DRIVE CAREFULLY

With Ridgefield Park Schools scheduled to open on September 8, we ask that all motorists be cautious with children attempting to get to school. Every fall, over 55 million children across the United States head back to school. With 13 percent of those children typically walking or biking to their classes, AAA warns drivers to be especially vigilant for pedestrians before and after school hours. The afternoon hours are particularly dangerous - over the last decade, nearly one in four child pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Slow down: Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling at 25 mph is nearly two-thirds less likely to be killed compared to a pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling just 10 mph faster. Come to a complete stop: Research shows that more than one-third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. Always come to a complete stop, checking carefully for children on sidewalks and in crosswalks before proceeding.

Eliminate distractions: Research shows that taking your eyes off the road for just two seconds doubles your chances of crashing. Children can be quick, crossing the road unexpectedly or emerging suddenly between two parked vehicles. Reduce risk by not using your cell phone or eating while driving, for example.

Reverse responsibly: Every vehicle has blind spots. Check for children on the sidewalk, in the driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing. Please do not rely solely on a vehicle's back-up camera.

Resident Vehicle Awareness  
We would also like to remind residents to remove key fobs from their vehicles and always lock their vehicle doors. A great deal of vehicle thefts have involved vehicles which have had key fobs left inside. Similarly, a great deal of vehicle burglaries have involved vehicles which had been left unlocked. These crimes often occur, but not exclusively, overnight.

Unfortunately, there also continues to be a rise in catalytic converter thefts throughout the county and state. These thefts involve a sawzall, which can at times be heard during the late night or very early morning hours when these thefts commonly take place. Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious behavior.



## VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Prevention Week celebrates it's  
100th Anniversary!!

This year Fire Prevention Week is October 9th through October 15th and the theme is

- Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape."

This year's theme promotes potentially life-saving messages that can mean the difference between life and death in a fire. Developing a home escape plan with all members of the household and practicing it regularly ensures that everyone knows what to do when the smoke alarm sounds and uses that time wisely.

Following are key messages behind this year's "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape" theme:

- Make sure your home escape plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
  - Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.
  - Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
  - Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
  - Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.
- As the biggest annual campaign at NFPA, Fire Prevention Week works to educate people about the leading risks to home fires and ways they can better protect themselves and their loved ones.

To learn more about Fire Prevention Week, its 100th anniversary, and this year's theme,

- Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape," visit

[www.nfpa.org/fpw](http://www.nfpa.org/fpw).



## Non-Owner Occupied Dwellings

The New Jersey Uniform Fire Safety Act (N.J.S.A.52:27d-192 et seq) places all non-owner occupied one and two family dwellings, under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Fire Prevention, to enforce the provisions of the State Fire Code to provide a reasonable degree of safety from fire. Failure to comply with this State Law will result in Administrative penalties, collectable through the State Superior Court. If you have not already done so, please contact us at 201-440-2570 to register your property.



## FROM THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Please visit our page on the Village website <https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/office-emergency-management> for information and informative links. Please join our Facebook page Ridgefield Park Office of Emergency Management for updates and notifications. If you haven't already, sign up for our Reverse 911 Notifications. You can sign up from the main page of the Village website.

Did you know that The Village of Ridgefield Park has a Residential Special Needs Registry for residents who may require special assistance during an emergency? If you, or someone you know, needs to be on the list please fill out the attached application and return it to: The Office of Emergency Management, 50 Main St., Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660. Halloween will be upon us before we know it. Please take necessary precautions with your children as they venture out to trick or treat. Please dress your children in flame retardant costumes and be careful when using candles as decorations. Never leave candles unattended and keep them away from curtains and other flammable materials.

The Bureau of Fire Prevention and the Office of Emergency Management wish all the residents of Ridgefield Park a safe and fun Halloween.

## THE WANDA CANOE CLUB

will be holding their 6th annual Hackensack River Race on October 15th. The village is very proud Wanda Canoe Club has called us home for 56 years. Come out to support the Wanda Canoe Club and their race. The race starts and finishes at the DPW. More information can be found at:

<https://www.wandacc.org/hack-race.html>

## RP ARTS ASSOCIATION

The Ridgefield Park Arts Association continues to support the arts in all its forms. We are a 501 C3 non-profit organization. Our annual events include the Village Art Exhibit in the Municipal building, Summer Arts Fest and Holiday Market in the Park. These events promote Village artists while creating avenues to support our local restaurants, stores as well as home businesses. There are several works of art scattered around which are on loan, donated or commissioned by the Village or a resident. With this movement towards artistic expression, we have collaborated with the Village on several creative projects, helped to promote the summer concerts, as well as recognizing artists who have painted some of the awesome murals. We also partner with Friends of the Library to bring you "Word on the Street" as well as participation in their holiday wreath event. Our fall calendar is a busy one. The events include, the Street Fair on September 17th, Word on the Street on September 23rd, new art exhibit in October, and our annual Holiday Market in November.

The Holiday Market in the Park will be held on Saturday, Nov.5th at Fellowship Park with a rain date for Sunday, November 6th. We are looking for fine artists, crafters, jewelry makers, potters and ceramists, plus direct marketing consultants. Village organizations are welcome. There will also be a Tricky Tray and 50/50 drawing. Student volunteers will be available to assist. Great opportunity to do some holiday shopping! Check us out on Facebook or go to our website at [www.ridgefieldparkarts.org](http://www.ridgefieldparkarts.org)





# OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT VILLAGE OF RIDGEFIELD PARK

201-440-2570

## SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE FORM

The Village of Ridgefield Park has a Residential Special Needs Registry for residents who may require special assistance during an emergency. The provided information is strictly **CONFIDENTIAL** and will only be used by public safety personnel during emergencies.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Describe your special need or assistance that may be required during an emergency (oxygen, medical device, etc.)

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Is this need \_\_\_\_\_ permanent \_\_\_\_\_ temporary, until \_\_\_\_\_

Do you require electricity to operate a medical devise? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

In case of emergency, **please call:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency does anyone have a key to your residence? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN TO: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, 50 MAIN ST., RIDGEFIELD PARK, NJ 07660**



Ridgefield Park Green Team and DPW Presents

# Bulky Rigid Plastics Drop-Off

- Plastic tables and chairs
- Lawn furniture
- Laundry baskets
- Buckets
- Crates
- Storage containers
- Storage container lids
- Garbage cans and lids
- Children's play sets
- Plastic toys that are missing pieces or broken



**Saturday, November 12th**  
**9am to 1pm**  
**24 Industrial Avenue**  
**Ridgefield Park**

Scan to learn more about this event and other initiatives!

