

village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL. 36 NO. 4

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

NOVEMBER, 2019

HERE WE ARE AT HOLIDAY TIME!

Merry Christmas! Happy Hannukah! Happy New Year! — Whatever your belief, custom, or tradition may your Holiday Time be a time of peace, joy, and happiness and may the Holiday Spirit continue throughout the New Year.

Think about it — we are nearing the end of the second decade of the 21st Century. For a good part of our population, those now entering adulthood, the 20th Century is Ancient History. The technological advances of the 21st Century are astounding. Yet, fundamental issues that humanity has faced for time immemorial remain — how can we learn, all of us, to live together in peace, justice, tolerance, and harmony. The spirit of our Holiday traditions points the way. Here in Ridgefield Park, let us all extend a welcome to all those with whom we come in contact Be a friend a and a good neighbor.

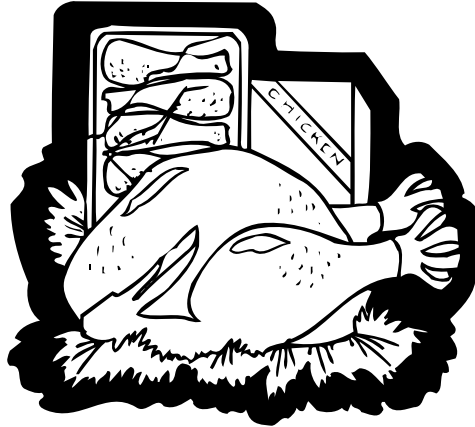
Best Wishes to all for the Holidays and the New Year!

Commissioner Anlian
Commissioner Kohles
Commissioner MacNeill
Commissioner Poli
Mayor Fosdick

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 2019. 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 2019 Meetings:

2019 Caucus Meeting Dates:

November 7 and 26
December 5 and 19

2019 Regular Meeting Dates:

November 12 and 26
December 10 and 26

The Caucus Meeting of November 26, 2018 will begin at 6:00 PM with the Regular Meeting of November 26, 2019 immediately following.

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/lgccc

Failure to comply can result in your event being shut down.

Raffle license applications are available in the Village Clerk's office. Applications must be completed six (6) weeks prior to your raffle.

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 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.**

BOARD OF RECREATION

Just a reminder to everyone, the Board of Recreation is made up entirely of volunteers who generously give their time to run various programs and activities for the residents of the Village. It operates on a small budget provided by the Village and assists hundreds of residents in various activities. You may contact the Board of Recreation by either email at boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org or calling the voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610. Information on all Board of Recreation activities is at www.ridgefieldpark.org. Please remember volunteers run these programs and they will get back to you as soon as possible.

Not all activities are run by the Board of Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. To make sure you are calling the right number for assistance, please remember to check our website to see what activities the Board sponsors. Not all sporting activities are run by the Board of Recreation. Baseball, football, wrestling and soccer, for instance, are all run by private organizations and unfortunately, we are unable to answer any questions concerning these activities. The summer concert series is also not run by the Board.

Please also be on the look-out for registration forms and news from the Board of Recreation on the school district website. A

link has been created for community flyers. All forms are distributed electronically now so you can print it from there or on the Village website.

Upcoming Board of Recreation events: Acting and Improvisation Grades K-12

This program is no longer held in Ridgefield Park.

Taught by Rachel Maddock, MA Educational Theatre.

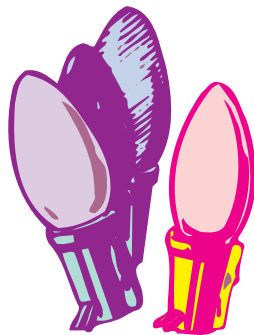
For info: Email: maddockrsh@gmail.com

T2S Basketball – The Board sponsors a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students in grades 2-12 run by T2S Basketball Academy. There is ongoing registration. For further information, interested people can email t2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com or on Facebook: @t2sbasketballacademy.

Basketball – Coaches and schedules will be posted on the internet by the end of November. Clinic and all other divisions' games will begin the first weekend in December.

Saturday Night Hoops – After a successful first season, this program will again be offered to Boys grades 9-11 (who live in Ridgefield Park or attend RP J/S HS). The program runs on Saturday nights at the RP Junior/Senior high school gym. It is anticipated the season will run from December – March. There are a limited number of openings to participate so the program is open to the first to register and all others are put on a waiting list. Tryout date is November 20, 2019 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Lincoln School. Be on the lookout on the school district's website and the Village website for registration forms. Mail or drop off registration and fee to: Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. Deadline to submit registration form and fee is November 18. All boys grades 9-11 are welcome to participate.

Tree Lighting – The Board of Recreation annual tree lighting will take place on Sunday, December 1, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Included in the night's festivities are music by the Grant School chorus as well as singing by guest soloists and the local boy and girl scouts. Vorhees-Ingwersen Funeral Home will again be donating a bicycle for the raffle for grades K-6. 7-11 will provide free Slurpees after the tree lighting. Don't forget to bring your ballot and deposit it in the box. Make sure you arrive early! There will be some special guests this year!!



Holiday Wish Tree – As in the past, the Holiday Wish Tree will be located at the Oritani Bank at 233 Main Street and should have the tags available beginning November 29. The wish tree gives residents the opportunity to purchase a holiday gift for a less fortunate Village child. If you would like to participate, please stop by and select an ornament and return your gift by December 16, 2019. Your gift will then be delivered to a very appreciative child. Thanks again for your assistance!

Holiday Display Contest – The annual Holiday Display Contest will be held on Friday, December 20, 2019, at which time registered Village homes and businesses will be judged and prizes awarded. Judging will begin at dusk. After the contest, check for winners on www.ridgefieldpark.org. To make judging easier and to ensure that your home or business is included, you must register for the contest. Registration forms are available at www.ridgefieldpark.org or at the municipal building. You must register by December 19 to be included in the contest. There will be a contest for both residential and businesses. Forms can be mailed to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. You can use the form at the end of these announcements to register or you can email your information to: boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org.

Women's Softball – Registration packets will be available in January or February. If you would like to play or have a team that would like to participate, please call the Board of Recreation and leave your name, address and telephone number and a packet will be prepared for your team.

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 Municipal Building on the third floor in the Dare Room. Anyone with any questions, comments or suggestions is more than welcome to attend any meeting. Anyone needing to speak to the Board of Recreation may call (201) 641-4950 ext. 610 and leave a message on the voice mail. If you wish

to send a letter, please address it to the Board of Recreation at 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park or email at boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org. For any information concerning Board of Recreation activities or to get a registration form, please go to www.ridgefieldpark.org.

The Board of Recreation is always welcome to hear your comments.

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST — YOU MUST REGISTER IF YOU ARE RESIDENTIAL OR BUSINESS.

Mail to: Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660 by DECEMBER 19 if you would like to enter the annual contest. If you prefer, you may email your registration information to: boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

_____ Residential Entry

_____ Business Entry

BUILDING PERMIT INFORMATION

When do I Need a Building Permit?

You must obtain a permit from the Building Department before doing the following work:

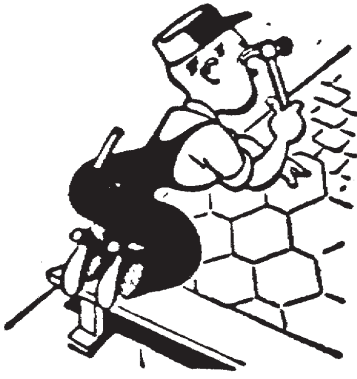
Any addition, interior alterations, constructing a deck, enclosing a porch, installing a dishwasher, most electrical work, finishing your basement, central air conditioning, installing a swimming pool (above or below ground), new furnace, new boiler, new hot water heater, fence, fireplace, sheds, underground sprinkler system, driveways and sidewalks.

This is a partial list, when in doubt, call the Building Department.

Can I do the Work Myself?

Carpenters do not have to be licensed in New Jersey, however, Plumbers, Electricians and Fire Alarm contractors are required to have a State License.

Homeowners of an owner-occupied single family home may do their own work. They may not have a friend, relative or



neighbor do the plumbing or electrical work; the homeowner must personally do the work.

A Permit is Still Required From the Building Department.

Any other structure, including owner-occupied two family homes, require all plumbing and electrical work be performed by NJ Licensed contractors.

When do I Not Need a Permit?

For ordinary repairs and maintenance work, including exterior and interior painting (C-1 Business Zone requires a review from the Historic Preservation Commission for exterior painting). Wallpapering, installation or repair of any interior finish of less than 25% of the wall area in any room. (Paneling shall not be considered an ordinary repair and requires a permit.)

The installation of any door, window or garage door, in the same opening without altering the dimensions of the framing of the original opening. The repair of any non-structural member such as a partial railing or kitchen cabinet. The replacement or repair of any interior or exterior trim or molding.

The installation of any flooring material. In a commercial building carpeting requires a permit.

Replacing a roof.

Installation of siding.

Replacing a faucet, as long as the plumbing does not have to be rearranged.



of the Ridgefield Park Environmental Commission, will be leading the Christmas Bird Count.

There will be two locations in Ridgefield Park to observe and count the local bird population. The starting point will be at 7:00 a.m. at McGowan Park followed by the Amphitheater at Overpeck Park at 9:30 a.m.

"Over the last seven years the Christmas Bird Count here in the Village has attracted more children and their families. Of course we are looking for more birders and students to join us this year. The return of the American Bald Eagle is one of the many attractions that participants might see during the bird count" said Quinn.

"The exciting part of the Christmas Bird Count is that it helps us take inventory of the local bird population" added Quinn. "I guess you can call it a wildlife census, which is essential to monitoring, tracking and assessing the bird population and trends in the area."

"This event is definitely the perfect gathering that brings together bird lovers, families and students who want to learn more about the birds in our area and make a difference for science and bird conservation," said Quinn.

Those interested in participating in the Ridgefield Park Christmas Bird Count, should wear hiking boots and appropriate clothing for winter weather conditions. In the event of rain, the Christmas Bird Count will be cancelled. (email: envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org if you want to confirm the count is on if the weather is bad). Participants should bring a pair of binoculars with them. There is no cost involved to participate. For additional information or to reserve a spot at the Christmas Bird Count, email the Ridgefield Park Environmental Commission at envcomm@ridgefieldpark.org.

@ YOUR LIBRARY

Learn a New Language

We understand that learning a new skill is important in this day and age, whether you want to get a job, apply for a mortgage, or find a good college. Fortunately, the library is offering English as a Second Language Classes (ESL) on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning 1/8. We are starting to accept students now, so please sign up before spots disappear. Also, for those of you interested in technology, Ridgefield Park's Coder Dojo will be meeting again beginning on 1/30. This once-a-month course is designed to help young people learn the ins and outs of various computer languages. For more information, be sure to check out www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org, or stop by the library. Registration is required.

A Walk on the Highline

On 3/19 at 7:00 p.m., come and take a walk on The High Line with Mario Medici, amateur photographer and historian, and discover how the High Line was transformed from a historic elevated freight rail to one of New York City's most popular parks. Check out the new architecture, gigantic skyscrapers built over train tracks, century-old ice buildings, shopping centers, new sculpture art, and, yes, even where the Oreo cookie was discovered! With frequent visits to the High Line, you'll always find an up-to-date presentation with the latest of everything. Whether you're planning a visit to The High Line or just curious to see what The High Line has to offer this presentation is not to be missed. Registration is required.

Makers Day

3/21 is NJ Makers Day! Stop by at the library for a wide variety of programming pertaining to making things yourself. Everything from making your own pencil box, 3D bingo game, Oreo tower, or even your very own cartoon. For more information, please visit us at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org, or stop by the library. Registration is required.

Learning Express

Have you tried Learning Express yet? Learning Express is an online learning tool that provides you with everything from job resources, to practice tests for major exams, to reading and writing exercises, to computer program guidance, and so much more with just your library card. For more information, be sure to check out www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org and click on the "Learning Express" link, or stop by the library.

RIDGEFIELD PARK CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SCHEDULED FOR DEC. 7

RIDGEFIELD PARK, NJ – The Ridgefield Park Environmental Commission will be holding its 7th Annual Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, December 7th from 7:00 a.m. to 12 Noon. Residents of the Village and surrounding areas are invited to participate in the event.

Stephen and Linda Quinn, members

**SCHOOL IS OPEN
DRIVE CAREFULLY!**

Program Highlights

A full listing of our programs appears at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org. This is also where program registrations are accepted.

Baby & Me—Thurs., 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 11:00–11:30 a.m. This Storytime is developed specially for infants to 2 years old and their parent/caregivers. This is an interactive program between you and your baby. Enjoy 30 minutes of books, songs, rhymes, fingerplay, toys, and socialization with other young babies. Afterwards, enjoy fun time with play in our Early Literacy Room. Registration is required.

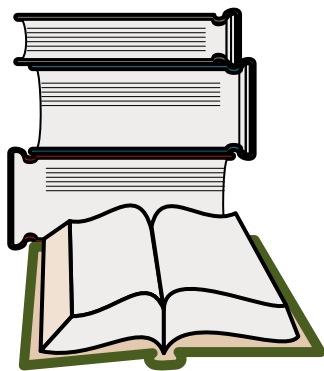
Movies for the Over 18 Crowd—Thurs., 1/2, 1/16, 2/6, 2/20, 3/5, 3/19, 2:00 p.m. All movies are on the first Thursday of the month starting at 2:00 p.m. So why not come by, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, a donut, and a free movie on us.

Anime Daze—Thurs., 1/2, 1/23, 2/6, 2/20, 3/5, 3/19, 3:30–5:00 p.m. Fans of Japanese cartoons and comics join us for anime viewings, discussions, and snacks. Doesn't matter if you're an otaku or a newbie! For 7th grade and up.

Teen Arts Festival—Thurs., 1/2–Fri., 1/30 Submit original artwork, photography, short stories, poetry, etc. all month long for our Teen Arts Festival. Prizes will be awarded for first place in each category on January 31st during our ending celebration. Original work will be displayed throughout the library! Please see our website for information on how to submit your work.

Game Time!—Fri., 1/3, 1/17, 1/31, 2/7, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/27, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Join us for an afternoon of fun playing board games like chess, trouble, Monopoly or even Uno. Play an old favorite or learn a new game. Board games can expose children to important skills needed to learn in the 21st century, including critical thinking, collaboration & creativity. Many board games also expose children to mathematics. Bring your friends and meet some new ones. Each week we will vote on a board game to play. This program is sponsored by the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library. Snacks are provided. For school kids of all ages.

Summer in Winter Party—Sat., 1/4, 1:00–2:00 p.m. Bring your flip-flops, hats and sunglasses for our summer in winter party. We will surf, lounge by the pool, have a frosty treat, and dance to the Beach Boys. For children of all ages, however children under the age of 7 must be attended by an adult.



Homework Help for Kids!—Mon., 1/6, 1/13, 1/20, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, Wed., 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 3:30–4:00 p.m. Teens help elementary school kids with homework and/or reading. Registration is required, village teens and children only. Village children can register online. Space is limited.

ESL Conversation Class—Mon., 1/6, 1/13, 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/24, 3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Talk with native speakers and other language learners about current events, travel, money, family, holidays and much more. For adults 16 years old or older. This program is provided in partnership with the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

Hable con hablantes nativos y otros estudiantes de idiomas sobre eventos actuales, viajes, dinero, familia, vacaciones y mucho más. Para adultos mayores de 16 años. Este programa se proporciona en colaboración con la Biblioteca Pública de Friends of Ridgefield Park.

Basic ESL Class—Tue., 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31, 10:00–10:30 a.m. Practice listening, speaking, reading and writing English for everyday needs with a certified teacher. For adults 16 years old or older. This program is provided in partnership with the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

Practique escuchar, hablar, leer y escribir en inglés para las necesidades diarias con un maestro certificado. Este programa es para adultos mayores de 16 años y se proporciona en colaboración con la Biblioteca de Friends of Ridgefield Park.

YA Game Day—Tues., 1/7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 3/31 3:30–5:00 p.m. Teens gather at the library for video games, board games, card games, snacks, and socializing. Bring a friend!

Toddler Storytime—Wed., 1/8, 1/15,

1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 10:30–11:15 a.m. This storytime is developed specially for children ages 2–4 and their parent/caregiver. Enjoy 45 minutes of books, songs, rhymes, socialization, and a craft with other young children and their parent/caregiver. Each session of toddler storytime consists of a variety of activities that incorporate reading, talking, writing, singing, and playing. Registration is required.

Knights of the Reading Table—Wed. 1/8, 1/29, 2/5, 2/19, 3/4, 3/18 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Create a character and take part in an epic RPG adventure. Build alliances, battle monsters, and embark on an awesome quest. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Coloring Art—Wed., 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Back by popular demand....Twins, teens and adults can join in for this creative and relaxing program. Pick your favorite coloring book from a wealth of choices and color away. When you are done, we will frame your artwork and display it in the library! Afterwards, you may take your artwork home. This program is designed for adults as well middle school children in grades 5th and up. Refreshments will be served.

Basic ESL Class—Wed., 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Practice listening, speaking, reading and writing English for everyday needs with a certified teacher. For adults 16 years old or older. This program is provided in partnership with the Friends of Ridgefield Park Public Library.

Practique escuchar, hablar, leer y escribir en inglés para las necesidades diarias con un maestro certificado. Este programa es para adultos mayores de 16 años y se proporciona en colaboración con la Biblioteca de Friends of Ridgefield Park.

DIY Smoothies for Teens—Thurs., 1/9, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Make your own smoothies from a list of recipes, or get creative and come up with your own! Learn about healthy snacking and the benefits of fruits and vegetables. All-natural, feel-good snack making at its finest!

Awesome Bookclub—Thurs., 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9, 6:30–7:15 p.m., For kids in grades 3–6. Together we will read a novel while enjoying a slice of pizza. January book: The City of Ember. This is a 15 week program. If time permits, the last

week will be the movie, *The City of Ember* which is rated PG.

STEM Bookclub—Fri., 1/10, 2/21, 4:00–5:00 p.m. This program is for village children in 2nd & 3rd grade with a focus on discussing non-fiction books and a corresponding craft. Registration and valid library card required for each session.

January: *Map Skills*.

February: *Rockets*

Monster Chronicles—Mon., 1/13, 1/27, 2/10, 2/24, 3/9, 3/23 5:30–7:00 p.m.; Wed., 1/8, 1/22, 2/5, 2/19, 3/4, 3/18 3:30–5:30 p.m. Create a character and form a team to battle monsters in this RPG inspired by the likes of *Supernatural* and *Stranger Things*.

Chef Storytime—Tues., 1/21, 2/18, 3/17, 7:00–7:30 p.m. Enjoy listening to a story and creating a cool food based on the book read. This storytime is geared to children ages 5 and up. Parents/caregivers must attend with our young patrons under 8 years old. Registration is required. Limited space. Please bring a smock. Food may contain nuts and/or dairy.

January: *Quesadilla*

February: *Making Cake*

March: *Tacos*

Celebrate Lunar New Year—Fri., 1/24, 3:30–4:30 p.m. Happy New Year! Lunar New Year is an Asian tradition welcoming in a new year and honoring ancestors. Join Rev. Yiero So, in a celebration of games and food at the Ridgefield Park Public Library. Registration is required.

Adult Video/Board Game Night—Fri., 1/24, 2/28, 3/24, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Need a night out? Do you like to play video games or board games? Why not come to the library? We will be hosting a video/board game night for adults only, with refreshments. We will be playing video games and will also have some board games setup if anyone wishes not to play video games. Registration is required through our web site at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org or call the library at 201-641-0689.

Adult Book Club—Fri., 1/27, 2/24, 3/30, 7:30–8:30 p.m. Join us the last Monday of the month for a fun and lively discussion of our book club pick. Check out the calendar for book selections.

Spaces That Speak Home Staging Seminar—Tues., 1/28, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Our staged homes speak directly to today's New Jersey home buyers — and it gets listings noticed! We make it our business to understand your buyers' demographics and enhance the features they value most. Whether vacant or occupied, we stage your

property to SELL. Registration is required.

Coder Dojo—Thurs., 1/30, 2/27, 3/26, 4/30, 5/28, 6/25, 7:00–9:00 p.m. Youngsters age 9 to 17 meet with mentors to explore the world of computer coding. Registration required.

Salsa Line Dancing—Thurs., 2/11, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Donay Wilford will lead a Salsa Line Dancing Workshop incorporating smooth low impact moves and simple dance patterns set to a latin beat! You don't want to miss this fun event! Registration is required.

Valentine Make and Take—Thurs., 2/13, 3:30–3:00 p.m. Join us for an hour of fun making a special valentine's treat to give to a friend or family member. Registration is required.

Teddy Bear Jamboree—Sat., 2/15, 2:00–3:00 p.m. Join us for an hour of bearful fun! Your favorite bear or stuffed toy is welcome at the library. The bears will dance, play freeze tag, and enjoy other bear games. Next it's tea and snack time, and then, we will make a bear cave for resting. This is a drop in program, no registration is needed. For children of all ages, however children under the age of 7 must be attended by an adult.

Teen Game Tournament—Fri., 2/28, 6:00–8:00 p.m. Join us for a night of knock-out round gaming! Winner gets a prize! Do you have what it takes to be the last one standing?!

Dr. Seuss' Birthday Brunch—Sat., 3/7, 12:00–1:00 p.m. Celebrate "Read Across America" by listening to a reading of a Dr. Seuss classic followed by a brunch of green eggs and ham. This program is for village residents and their families, registration is required.

How to Protect the People You Love and the Assets You Own!—Weds., 3/11, 7:00–8:00 p.m. This seminar will cover Q&A about Wills & Probate, Health Care Proxy & Living Will, Revocable & Irrevocable Trusts, Medicaid Qualification, and Long Term Care Planning. Learn from attorneys some of the strategies and tools that will allow you to protect your savings, remain in control of your life and your assets. Registration required.

A Walk on the Highline—Thurs., 3/19, 7:00–8:00 p.m. The High Line is only 1.45 miles long but it's packed with history, old and new. Take a walk on The High Line with Mario Medici, amateur photographer and historian, and discover how the High Line was transformed from a historic elevated freight rail to one of New York City's

most popular parks. Check out the new architecture, gigantic skyscrapers built over train tracks, century-old ice buildings, shopping centers, new sculpture art, and, yes, even where the Oreo cookie was discovered! With frequent visits to the High Line, you'll always find an up-to-date presentation with the latest of everything. Whether you're planning a visit to The High Line or just curious to see what The High Line has to offer this presentation is not to be missed. Registration is required.

Makers Day! Button Bonanza—Sat., 3/21, 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Join us in celebration of NJ Maker's Day and create an awesome button. This program is for village residents of all ages.

Creatively Yours Teen Paint Night—Thurs., 3/26, 4:00–6:00 p.m. Come to the library for a fun night of painting and creativity hosted by *Creatively Yours!* Teens will have the opportunity to hang out and paint their very own ceramic coffee mugs!

PREVENT USABLE GOODS FROM GOING INTO LANDFILLS!

Use our Materials Reuse Program

Recycling's important, but even better is reuse.

Bring the household things you don't want to the DPW Materials Reuse Program located at the DPW Monday through Saturday from 9am – Noon at 24 Industrial Avenue.

A mirror, a pot, a small table, a picture, a vacuum cleaner or even a shovel that someone else can use. Doing this reduces the amount of waste that will need to be recycled or sent to landfills and incinerators and you help your community and those in need.

RIDGEFIELD PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN

Season 3 seems to have flown by. We added some interesting plants to both gardens, including asparagus and rhubarb. We just planted garlic which will winter over and be harvested next season. We had several new members and just received applications from a few people who will be gardening with us next season.

Anyone wishing to join us can get an application on the village website by going to www.ridgefieldpark.org and looking for community garden.

RIDGEFIELD PARK YOUTH CENTER

"It takes a Village..." and Ridgefield Park has always been a stellar example of this fact. The Board of Commissioners is happy to announce the opening of the RP Youth Center. The Youth Center is located on the top floor of the Civic Center on Park Street and serves as a safe and supervised place for students of the village from 7th-12th grade to "hang out" after school. The center is open Monday-Friday from 3-7pm. There are plans for special programs for the teens throughout the year, as well.

Outfitting such a program has been a tremendous task. The Youth Center opened in the end October. It offers a place to do homework, crafts, video games, movies, board games and more. There is no charge for the program, however advance registration is required. Snacks are available for a nominal fee. Please watch for notices being sent home with your children, as well as announcements on FaceBook and Instagram.

Talk with your children-ask them what they would like to see at the Youth Center and help us to make this a place where teens want to hang out! Your assistance in making the RP Youth Center a success is much needed and greatly appreciated. You can contact me at 551-404-2418 or RPYouthCenter@ridgefieldpark.org

Daina Scheideler
RP Youth Center-Director

JOIN THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF RIDGEFIELD PARK!

Would you like to help make your community a better place to live? Lend a helping hand to those in need? Then this club is the perfect place to join hands with us. You're invited to come & meet the ladies who make up our wonderful group of volunteers and enjoy an informative, fun, renewal of our commitment to serve our friends and neighbors in Ridgefield Park.

The Woman's Club of Ridgefield Park was established back in 1894 and is open to women ages 18 and up. The club is a chapter of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, which is an International Women's Organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service.

There are many opportunities to help your community. Here are just a few of the projects that we continually work on: Food drives & Bake Sales for our local

Food Pantry at St. Francis Church, making fleece blankets for projects involving CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) which is helping children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and/or neglect, knitting and crocheting hats for those in need.

The club gives out 2 Scholarships to RPHS Students each year & we also sponsor several high school girls to attend Girls Career Institute at Douglas College which is a week-long leadership retreat.

Legislation issues are also a part of Woman's Clubs constant efforts to ensure that women, children and veterans are supported.

One of our fundraising programs, Wreaths Across America, is now in progress. Purchase a wreath honoring a service man or woman. Wreath laying ceremonies take place at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at more than 1,600 additional locations in all 50 US States, at sea and abroad for the Christmas Holidays .

Monthly meetings are held at the town Civic Center on the 3rd Wednesday of each month and begin at 7:30pm.

November meeting will be held on 11/13/19 – The History of Ridgefield Park Lecture 7:30pm

December meeting will be held on 12/11/19 — Holiday Dinner @ MK Valencia 6:30pm

January meeting will be held on 01/15/20 — Valley Hospital Speaker — "How to Improve your Memory" 7:30pm

For more information, please contact our Club President, Kerri Gonyou-Schelp, via email at rpwcnj@gmail.com or at 201-805-8501.

Please be sure to find us on Facebook & join our page! We look forward to meeting you!

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Snow Emergencies Village Ordinance 197-25

With the winter approaching, we have once again reached that time of year when snow emergencies unexpectedly arise. The Ridgefield Park Police Department would like to remind Village residents to vigilantly observe snow ordinance signs when parking vehicles before, during and after a snow emergency. It is the responsibility of each individual resident to be aware of possible upcoming storms or severe changes in the weather by monitoring weather reports. Mother Nature is unpredictable and it is sug-



gested that you remove your vehicle from the snow emergency side of the street if weather reports indicate that there is even the slightest inclination that it may snow. Parking is permitted at the town pool if no other options are available to you.

Residents who will be on vacation or who will use public transportation should take special care to make arrangements with relatives or friends to ensure the prompt removal of vehicles during a snow emergency. Absolutely NO PERMISSIONS will be granted for any reason, Vehicles in violation must be removed for snowplowing and to permit emergency vehicles to move uninhibited throughout the village.

The Ridgefield Park Police Department may send out a reverse 9-1-1 message alerting residents that the snow ordinance is in effect. Also, as a courtesy, a Nixle message will be sent out informing residents as well. If you have not registered for Nixle, please text 07660 to 888777 to stay informed. In addition, patrol officers may make announcements using their patrol vehicle's PA system to inform residents that the snow ordinance is in effect. After the above methods have been exhausted, officers will commence issuing summonses to vehicles that remain in violation of VO 197-25. After a State of Emergency Declaration, vehicles will be impounded as authorized by VO 197-27. The Ridgefield Park Police Department reserves the right to keep parking restrictions in effect for as long as necessary to ensure the safety and security of all residents. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Removal of Ice and Snow Village Ordinance 333-2 (Residents) State Law 39:4-207.9 (Business Owners)

Residents are reminded that snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks within 12 hours of daylight after same has formed or fallen.

Business owners are reminded that snow, ice or any other obstructions must be

cleared from a handicapped parking space, curb cut or other improvement designed to provide accessibility for the handicapped. This must be done within 24 hours after the weather condition which causes the snow or ice ceases.

At no time during the removal of snow from sidewalks, driveways or the digging out of a vehicle will the snow be cast, thrown, blown or dumped onto the street. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.



Ice and Snow Removal from Motor Vehicle Law

39-4-77.1

The Ridgefield Park Police Department is reminding motorists to always remove accumulated ice and snow from their vehicles before traveling on New Jersey's roadways. Motorists who fail to clear their vehicles of ice and snow before driving can be cited and fined under an amended law, which became effective October 20, 2010. Prior to this change, a motorist could only receive a citation if failure to remove ice and snow from a vehicle resulted in injury to others or in the event of property damage. If failure to remove ice and snow results in injury or property damage, motorists face fines ranging from \$200 to \$1000 while commercial motor vehicle drivers face fines ranging from \$500 to \$1500 for each offense. Exposed surfaces include but are not limited to: the hood, the trunk, the windshield and windows, the roof, the cab of a truck and the top of a trailer, semi-trailer or intermodal freight container. A driver who violates the provisions of this sub-section may be stopped on a street or highway by a law enforcement officer who believes the accumulated snow and/or ice may pose a threat to persons or property.

Reverse 9-1-1

The Reverse 9-1-1 system sends a specific message to all published telephone num-

bers of residents of the Village in the event of an emergency. The system is designed as a notification tool only and DOES NOT require a response. You will not receive a call if you have an unlisted number. If you would like to be notified through this system, please contact the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator (O.E.M.) Mike Lauer at (201) 440-2570. You may also contact the O.E.M. if you prefer not to be contacted via this system.

Again, we would like to remind residents NOT to call police headquarters in response to the reverse 9-1-1 call. During any emergency, the police desk is already busy handling multiple emergency calls. Non-emergency and informational type calls are discouraged during this period. In the years since its inception, the Reverse 911 system has proven to be a useful tool in keeping residents abreast of emergency situations within the Village.

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Winter Weather Approaches

In addition to preparing yourself and your house for winter, don't forget your trees which also need special care especially during ice and snow storms,

The biggest concern is road salt which harshly affects trees. To prevent road-salt damage to trees:

Avoid de-icing salts- Use coarse sand to make sidewalks and driveways less slippery. If salt is absolutely necessary, use as little as possible, and use the least damaging salts.

Use only Calcium Chloride- The harshest and most damaging salt is Sodium Chloride. Potassium Chloride is a component of fertilizer but it can also burn leaves and inhibit root formation when used alone. Calcium Chloride comes in pellets, the best delivery method, so it does a better job and lasts longer than the other two types. It is also less harmful to plants.

Use mulch- A layer of mulch, ONLY 2-to-3 inches, around the trees prevents water evaporation, which concentrates salt in the soil.

Flush out salt- If soil around trees has taken in too much road salt over the winter, flush the soil in the spring when it thaws. This flushing should send salts beyond the trees' root zones, where they can't harm the trees.

To also prevent damage to trees, avoid piling snow against the trunks. A heavy



layer of snow and ice against the bark can create freeze cracks from alternate thawing in sunlight and freezing again at night

Tree Pruning and Removal Lists

Sometimes homeowners inquire as to the status of trees which have been placed on the removal or pruning list. Many factors affect the amount of time a tree is on either list and, therefore, the STC does not know when the work will be done. These factors affecting the scheduling are:

Tree removals or pruning near or in power lines has to be done by PSE&G or tree service companies hired by them and scheduled by them,

Tree removals not affected by PSE&G lines are done by the Ridgefield Park DPW. The current list includes 30 trees. The DPW removes trees according to priority while also doing all of its other work. They must also work around accessibility of the area near a tree, depending on when parking is prohibited.

The DPW prunes trees in emergency or storm situations, but most pruning is done by private contractors.

Residents' requests for pruning are given to one of the private contractors. High priority trees on the pruning list are done first whenever possible.

Developmental pruning is done by area, completing all trees on one street at one time. This is the most cost effective plan for tree maintenance. Each area is done every three or four years.

Some trimming of low branches to clear low branches is done by STC members on their walks to monitor trees in their areas.

Developmental pruning lists and outstanding pruning job lists are worked at the same time, because the contractor also must work around street parking.

Continuing with spotlighting Village trees, the Red maple is the center of attention! One reason is its prominence in the Village inventory. 9.5 percent of the street trees are Red Maple, *Acer rubrum*, which is just slightly less than Oaks. Their main

claim for fame is their flaming color ... which is brilliantly displayed throughout the Village every fall.

These beautiful medium-sized trees, mostly found in the north and south East and Midwest parts of the United States, grow to 20'-40' feet with diameters of 1'-2', sometimes to 4'. In addition to their value for shade and ornament, the dry double-winged fruits, known as "keys", are eaten by birds and wildlife.

Enjoy the trees and help take care of them. To actively encourage and involve more Village residents to help take care of the trees, STC has started a Block Ranger Program. Each volunteer would have a small area to check trees for damage, pruning needs, replacement, etc.

The STC also needs members who could devote more time on work such as choosing tree sites, ordering trees, preparing planting lists, notifying utility companies and property owners about planting sites, attending state tree conferences, and planning Programs such as Arbor Day. The work is varied and interesting, the reward is a great feeling of accomplishment in the spring when the beautiful, leafy trees line the Village streets. For more information, the STC can be reached at shadetreecomm@ridgefieldpark.org or at 201-641-4950, ext. 640 or attend a meeting. The STC meets at 7:30 pm on the second and fourth Mondays in the third floor conference room in Town Hall. Your involvement in the Block Ranger Program or STC would have a significant positive impact on the health and beauty of the Village trees in your area.

SIDEWALKS

The STC has the Sidewalk Safety Program for sidewalks that need lifting or replacing due to Village shade tree roots. Anyone interested in the program should obtain forms at Town Hall and return the completed forms to the STC to initiate inspection.

Currently there is a waiting list, but submit your application now because work is done according to the date the application is received.

All reimbursable work **MUST BE PREAPPROVED BY A STC MEMBER** and done by a **STC APPROVED CONTRACTOR**. Property owners will not be reimbursed for work done without pre-approval by STC or by a contractor who is not STC approved. Property owners are required to pay contractor and then submit the invoice to the STC for reimbursement.

REMINDERS

According to Village Ordinance 3-79 no one can fasten any sign...garage sale, lost pet, etc...to any Village shade tree.

ATTRACTING WILD BIRDS TO YOUR BACKYARD IN WINTER

There is nothing more beautiful than the sights and sounds of Cardinals, Blue jays and Chickadees feeding in the snow outside your window and the wild birds in your neighborhood will especially benefit from your providing food for them in winter.

Here are a few helpful hints on how to attract and care for our feathered friends when the weather gets cold

The types of food you offer will attract different birds. Black oil Sunflower seed is probably the best as it attracts Cardinals, Blue Jays, chickadees, nuthatches, and finches. Safflower seed is irresistible for Cardinals. Thistle seed is best for attracting Goldfinches. Peanuts are best for Blue Jays. Millet and cracked corn is good for doves, Juncos and sparrows, but be advised, it can also attract pigeons, so use it sparingly. Suet or suet cakes are another food that help sustain wild birds during cold winters. It is especially good for attracting woodpeckers, chickadees, and nuthatches.

And there are many types of bird feeders to choose from. Hopper feeders are good as they can be filled with a longer lasting supply of seed. Tube feeders are great for serving thistle seed to Goldfinches. Window feeders equipped with suction cups are great for kids as it allows them to get close-up views of the birds. And suet feeders, made of wire, are made for serving up beef fat or suet cakes for woodpeckers.

And, of course, all the above bird seed attracts squirrels! Unless you enjoy watching the antics of squirrels helping themselves to your feeders, there are a few feeders and feeding stations that are especially designed to discourage them. There are even feeders especially designed for squirrels – if you enjoy feeding them!

The best sources for these and all supplies related to bird feeding is at Wild Birds Unlimited on Route 17 in Paramus or the National Wildlife Federation's online store. Most hardware stores and supermarkets are also good supply sources.

In future editions of the Village Newsletter we will share how you can attract butterflies and hummingbirds to your backyard in the summer!

WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THOSE AUTUMN LEAVES!

The longer you garden, the greater your appreciation for the value of organic matter. And one of the very best sources of organic matter is autumn leaves.

Leaves are packed with trace minerals that trees draw up from deep in the soil. When added to your garden, leaves feed earthworms and beneficial microbes. They lighten heavy soils and help sandy soils retain moisture. They make an attractive mulch in the flower garden. You can use them to insulate tender perennial plants from the winter cold.

Here's how to put leaves to work in your garden. Let the leaves pile up on your lawn and then drive over them a few times with the lawn mower. Rake them up and then use them as mulch in your perennial or vegetable gardens. In time, they will break down and do wonders for your soil. Your soil will be teeming with earthworms and other beneficial organisms by spring. Soil with good organic content like shredded leaves is high in calcium and magnesium and retains three to five times its weight in water — rivaling peat moss. If you compost, add them to your compost bin with grass clippings and once they are composted, use them as mulch in your garden beds all summer long!





RIDGEFIELD PARK

Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

Upcoming Events

PICTURES WITH SANTA

When: December 21st, 2019
11:00_{AM} to 3:00_{PM}

Where: 48 Main St
Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

Pets are welcome. Stop down and have your pictures taken with Santa and his Elves.

Membership

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

July: Gary Brown (Probationary),
Zachary Vorisek and Destiny Cardona (Probationary to Senior)

August: Vikrant Kalia (Associate Member)
Christian Adams and Jacob Schwartz (Life Member)

September: Rebecca Bercerril, Franklyn Mejia, Tamala Ramkirath,
and Matthew Sluja (Probationary)

October: Jemima Cineus (Probationary)
Ryan Conlon (Reserve)

Recruitment

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join the Ridgefield Park Volunteer Emergency Services.

No experience required
Training provided

Stop by the Ambulance Corps, Rescue Squad or your local Fire Station
for more information.

Since 1952



There is now an app which allows residents to keep track of garbage/trash/recycling collections.

The information can be used from a computer or the app can be loaded onto cellphones at:

www.recyclecoach.com

This useful tool allows residents to set collection reminders. Please check the DPW/Recycling Information page of the Village website.

<https://www.ridgefieldpark.org/departments-public-works/pages/recycling-information>

This app is funded by the NJDEP.



TRASH COLLECTION

- Trash is collected on the first Thursday or Friday of each month. Please call the DPW at 201-440-4860 if you have any questions. Trash includes furniture, mattresses, bags of clothing, toys.

TRASH COLLECTION

Trash is picked up as follows:

North of Mt. Vernon -1st Thursday of each month
Mt. Vernon & South-1st Friday of each month

NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB. NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB.

Scavengers are taking revenue from the Village. This affects your tax dollars. If you see someone removing items from the curb on Tuesday night-call the Police Department @ 201-641-6400

LEAF SEASON



LEAF SEASON ends on December 31st.

Leaves must be placed in the street, along the curb line, in front of your home. It is a violation of Village of Ridgefield Park ordinance to sweep, cast or throw anything into the gutter except leaves during designated leaf season. Leaves can also be placed in a trash can or PAPER bags. Do NOT fill bags or cans with dirt-they will not be accepted

STREET SWEEPING

- The mechanical street sweeper is scheduled to sweep in front of your home once each week, weather permitting. If you check the half-day parking ban signs in front of your home, you will know when the sweeper is scheduled. Every Wednesday, Teaneck Road is swept.
- **DO NOT put branches and twigs in the street-ONLY leaves!**



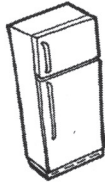
COLLECTION REGULATION REMINDER

- **Newspapers and Comingled recyclables can no longer be placed in PLASTIC BAGS!**
- All containers and recyclables must be placed at the curb NO EARLIER than 5 PM. the night before collection and empty containers removed from the curb by 8 PM on collection day.
- We do not collect building/renovation materials at the curb. If you have a building/renovation project that will generate a large amount of refuse, it is your responsibility to obtain a dumpster for disposal.
- A permit is necessary and can be obtained from the Building Department.
- Small amounts of building/renovation materials may be dropped off at the Recycling Center Mon. Sat., 9 A.M. – 12 Noon. Proof of residence is required.

NO CONTRACTOR OR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PERMITTED.

WHITE GOODS –EVERY Wednesday

- WHITE GOODS and tires **MUST be called into the DPW** before they are placed at the curb.
- Call 201-440-4860, give address, place items at the curb Tuesday night for Wednesday pick up.
- WHITE GOODS include: Tires, Computers, Electronics, TVs, and Air Conditioners & Appliances- just about anything that gets plugged into an electrical outlet.
- Failure to call will result in the item remaining at the curb and you may be subject to a fine.



Note: Refrigerators and freezers must have doors removed & unit should be laid flat to prevent injury.

NO PERSON, OTHER THAN AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE OF THE DPW, SHALL REMOVE ANY WHITE GOODS PLACED AT THE CURB.



The RECYCLING CENTER

is located at 24 Industrial Avenue.
Residents can drop off recyclable items
from 9 AM to 12PM (NOON),
Monday through Saturday.
Only small amounts of trash will be
accepted
and proof of residency is required.
**NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES*NO
CONTRACTOR WASTE PERMITTED*NO
HOUSE CLEAN-OUTS**

Ridgefield Park is



SNOW

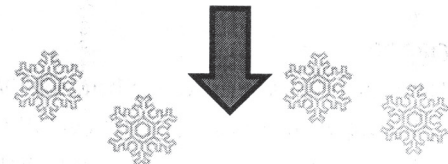
SEASON

- Winter and snow will be here soon. The DPW has an aggressive snow plowing program.
- Please remove your cars from the NO PARKING WHEN SNOW COVERED side of the street. While this may be an inconvenience, it is for the safety of our residents. Safe passage for emergency vehicles is a top priority.

Cars parked in violation

WILL be ticketed and may be towed.

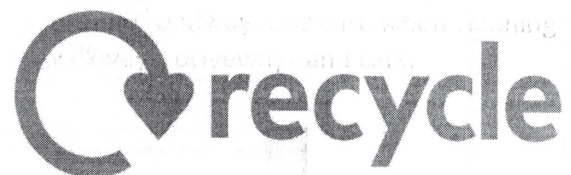
- **Please note:** It is a violation to place snow into the roadway. Use care when cleaning walkways, driveways and cars.



Village of Ridgefield Park Code 333-2.C – Removal of Ice and Snow from Sidewalks

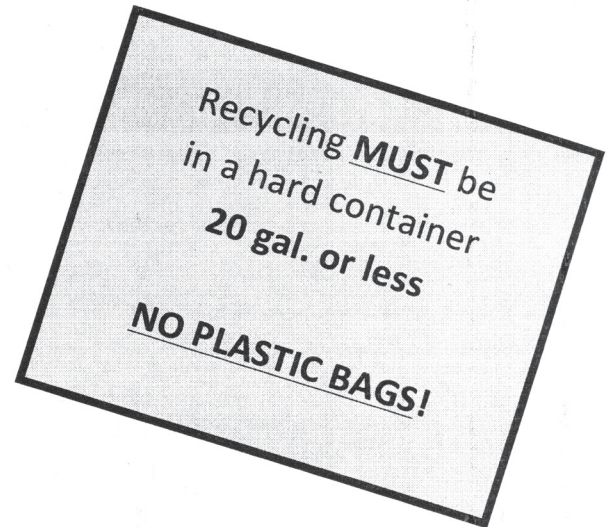
At no time during the removal of snow from sidewalks or driveways or the digging out of a vehicle will the snow be cast, thrown, blown or dumped onto a traffic lane of any Village street.

(Added 9-8-1987 by Ord. No. 12-87)



The possibilities are endless

PLEASE NOTE:



All trash containers must be 32 gallons or less!

- The contents must be lifted by one person.
- **DO NOT purchase the extra-large trash containers that are made for machinery to lift.** These include wheeled containers with a bar instead of handles and flip back tops. They cannot be emptied by one person safely.
- **Bags cannot weigh more than 30 lbs each.**
- **Do NOT fill your garbage can with rocks or dirt. Do not allow it to fill with water.**
- **Yard waste limit is 35 pounds per container/paper bag (NO PLASTIC BAGS).**

**Broken receptacles and those that do not meet regulations
may be classified as trash and collected for disposal**

If you have questions, please call the DPW @ 201-440-4860