

village NEWSLETTER

www.ridgefieldpark.org

VOL. 36 NO. 3

Ridgefield Park, N.J.

SEPTEMBER, 2019

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

We hope all had a good summer. Again, we commend our Citizens 4th of July Committee, along with all the Village employees, volunteers, and organizations who produced another wonderful, Independence Day celebration here in Ridgefield Park. Great job by all — Thank you!

Congratulations to our Police Department which has just completed its second re-accreditation process - maintaining a unique professional status among police departments,

Autumn is the time when we resume our “normal” routines. School is in session, clubs and organizations hold regular meetings. Remember, all Village organizations are happy to welcome new members. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our Village — please do your part, Remember, especially, that our Fire Department, Rescue Squad, and Ambulance Corps. are staffed exclusively by volunteers — you can be a part and provide a needed service to the community.

Also, we all know that ours is an older community. Many, if not most of our homes are now 100 or more years old. These homes and properties require our attention and care. We want to maintain the attractive character of our Village. Please do your part.

Commissioner Anlian
Commissioner MacNeill
Commissioner Kohles
Commissioner Poli
Mayor Fosdick

VETERANS DAY

Monday, November 11 – 11am The Monument - Euclid Avenue and Mt, Vernon Street In cooperation with American Legion Post 40 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 277, The Village will conduct the Annual Veterans Day Observance. All are encouraged to attend as we honor those who served our nation.



PEARL HARBOR DAY

Saturday, December 7 - 11 am

The Monument - Euclid Avenue and Mt. Vernon Street

Please join with American Legion Post 40 and VFW Post 277 as we observe the 78th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, marking the entry of the United States into World War II.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The gardening season has flown by. We want to remind village residents that they are welcome to pick ripe vegetables from the outer public plots, only. The public plots at both McGowan and Fellowship parks are easy to identify. They have the trellis backs and surround the private plots which are for our individual gardeners. The small diamond plots between the trellised ones which have a variety of herbs growing are for both gardeners and the public to share.

Since we have limited crop and many people who would like to have a taste, please be considerate of others who will look to pick after you.

Those wishing to garden with us in 2020, can find an application and read more about us at www.ridgefieldpark.org/community-garden

If you have a question, please feel free to email communitygarden@ridgefieldpark.org or contact Janet at 201-362-4420.

**SCHOOL IS OPEN
DRIVE CAREFULLY!**

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:

September	5 and 19
October	3 and 17
November	7 and 26
December	5 and 19

2019 Regular Meeting Dates:

September	10 and 24
October	8 and 22
November	12 and 26
December	10 and 26

The Caucus Meeting of November 26, 2019 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.**

SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Who doesn't appreciate beautiful leafy trees providing cooling breezes and shade during hot summer months? But in addition to these obvious advantages of trees who thinks about the other immeasurable benefits ... clean air, clean drinking water and habitat for countless wildlife.

Ongoing tree planting as well as care of new and mature trees is necessary. On a large scale the Arbor Day Foundation has launched the largest tree planting effort ever in order to protect these necessities of life worldwide and for generations to come. Their goal is to plant 100 million trees and inspire 5 million planters by 2022, the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day. Sounds like a lot of trees but according to statistics: A study by the University ETH Zurich states "planet has room for about 2.5 billion acres of trees and those could suck up an additional 200 gigatons of carbon" Arbor Day Foundation states: "There is an average of 200 wildfires in the U.S. every day ... those fires burn about 19,178 acres of land-every day." To learn more about the initiative go to Arbor Day Foundation's dedicated website at timefortrees.org.

Locally, the STC with the help from DPW works to increase and preserve Village trees. A recent survey of Village street and



park trees indicates a total of 3370 trees comprised of 98 different species.

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.

With this issue, various species planted in the Village will be highlighted beginning with the Oaks (*Quercus*). Not only is the Northern Red Oak New Jersey's state tree, but it occurs most frequently in the Village at 10.6%. In 1950, it was chosen as official state tree because it adapts well to the state's soils, displays beautiful fall color, has a lovely structure, and has a great resistance to disease.

The mighty Oak while appreciated for its beauty also provides food and "housing" for wildlife. According to the Bergen County Audubon Society, "At least 100 species rely on acorns ... In autumn and winter the acorn is one of most valuable food resources available for wildlife survival ... In addition, Douglas Tallamy in *Bringing Nature Home* states that Oaks support 517 species of butterflies and moths; in turn those

insects provide food to migratory birds such as Warblers, Orioles, Vireos, cardinals and Chickadees.

Look for the brilliant fiery foliage of the red Oak interspersed throughout the Village this fall and take particular notice of the red Oaks circling the island in front of the Ridgefield Park Junior Senior High School...scarlet leaves for the Scarlets!

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 preapproval by the STC or by a contractor who is not STC approved. Property owners are required to pay the 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 tree.

RIDGEFIELD PARK REASSESSMENT

As you may be aware, the Village is currently undergoing a reassessment as required by the State of New Jersey. Following the initial townwide reassessment, 25 % of properties will be inspected each year, over the course of the next four years, to keep up with the trends of the real estate market. This is forecasted to help with better flexibility and to stabilize the tax rates and ratios the Village uses to determine your annual taxes.

A letter was sent to all property owners outlining what to expect. If you have not received this letter, please call the Tax Assessor's Office.

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DRIVE CAREFULLY!**

BOARD OF RECREATION:

Just a reminder to everyone, not all activities are run by the Board of Recreation and the Board will not be able to answer your questions on these activities. Please be advised that: baseball, football, wrestling, soccer, summer concerts and summer recreation at the parks, are all private activities not run by the Board of Recreation. The Board of Recreation is, unfortunately, unable to assist with any information on these activities.

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 them from there or on the Village website.

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 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.

There is an insurance requirement that all coaches, referees and officials involved in sports programs need to successfully complete a program on the Sports Concussion policy protocol. This needs to be done before anyone participates in a sports program- if you plan on participating in a sport in the future, please be sure to complete this free on-line course at your convenience. You must forward your certificate of completion to the Board of Recreation before you will be permitted to participate in any sports program.

The link for this website with Sports Concussion policy protocol is www.NJMEL.org. New Jersey law is requiring that all organizations who use the Board of Education facilities comply with this program. The online training section has a link to a 40-minute free Concussion training program and mini exam and at the conclusion the coach or parent will be able to print a certificate of completion.

Upcoming Board of Recreation events are as follows:

Acting and Improvisation Grades K-12

Acting and Improvisation for Adults Ages 18 and Up

Learn to Act! Have Fun! Be creative! Build confidence!

Classes forming for the Fall Session: October 4th – December 20th for all grades. Taught by Rachel Maddock, MA Educational Theatre — NYU On-going Registration. Registration forms available at the Clerk's office or on-line. For info about scheduling and to discuss your child's placement:

Call voicemail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610, Email: boardofrec@ridgefieldpark.org or visit www.ridgefieldpark.org.

Students will be introduced to the basic elements of acting through theatre games and improvisation. They will develop an understanding of building an acting ensemble through cooperative group work and will learn spontaneity, physical and vocal expression, pantomime, character exploration and basic playwriting. — Older and advanced students will also study advanced acting techniques such as sensory work, script analysis, monologue work and basic scene study. — Acting and Improvisation classes are a great way for students to channel their energy and interact in a fun and creative way. — Acting and Improvisation builds confidence and life-long communication skills that can be applied to any field. Studies have shown that students who participate in the Arts have a greater chance of improving their academic performance

Tennis - Barry Ruback (201-568-3946) runs this program, which is taught by All Pro Tennis Staff. Lessons will be offered at Fellowship Park on Saturdays 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. beginning September 14 and ending November 9. All rain dates will be made up. For further info, contact Barry Ruback directly.

T2S Basketball - The Board sponsors a basketball specific performance enhancement training program to students in grades 2-12 run by T2S Basketball Academy. T2S provides co-ed sessions, private lessons by appointment only as well as team training. There is ongoing registration. For further information, interested people can email T2sbasketballacademy@gmail.com or on Facebook: @t2sbasketballacademy and the website www.t2sba.com for more info. You can also follow T2S on Instagram at [T2Sbasketballacademy](https://www.instagram.com/T2Sbasketballacademy).

Rag-A-Muffin Parade - The Board of Recreation will be sponsoring its annual Rag-A-Muffin Parade on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. All participants

should meet at the corner of Euclid Avenue and Hobart Street, no later than 10:30 a.m., with their registration form. As in the past, prizes will be awarded in all divisions and each child will receive a "goody bag." The rain date will be Sunday, October 27, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., with registration at 1:30 p.m. Special surprises will be available for all participants!

Basketball - Registration forms are available at the Clerk's Office, the Public Library or on the internet at www.ridgefieldpark.org. This program is open to both boys and girls who are residents of Ridgefield Park or attend school in Ridgefield Park grades 2-8. The season will run approximately from November 2019 through March 2020. Registration will take place in the DARE Room on the third floor of the municipal building on Friday, September 27, 2019, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, September 28, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration fees are \$55.00 for the first child and \$45.00 for each additional child. A \$20.00 late fee will be added to any registration received AFTER September 28, 2019. Checks should be made payable to: **RP BOARD OF RECREATION**. Late registrations should be mailed to: RP Board of Recreation, 234 Main Street, Ridgefield Park. All registration forms must be submitted by 10/25 to guarantee a spot on a team. **SPECIAL NOTE: NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT EVALUATIONS!!**

The evaluations will be at Lincoln School as follows: Monday, October 28 3/4 & 6/6 Boys at 6:30 p.m, Tuesday, October 29 at 6:00 p.m. - All girls Tuesday, October 29 at 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. 7/8 Boys.

Anyone interested in coaching or helping the basketball program should leave a message with the Board of Recreation at 641-4950 ext. 610. Also, anyone in at least seventh grade who is interested in training to be either a timer or scorekeeper for the basketball season should leave their name and phone number an the Board of Recreation voice mail at (201) 641-4950 ext. 610.

All coaches must submit to a mandatory background check as well as attend the Rutgers Safety Clinic (sponsored by the Board in RP) and take the Concussion Course before they are permitted to coach.

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 to be announced. Be on the lookout on the school district's website and the Village website for registration forms. Registration will take place in November. 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 15. 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. This year will include some special guests!

Holiday Wish Tree - As in the past, the Holiday Wish Tree will be located at Oritani Bank located at 233 Main Street. 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 all Village homes and businesses will be judged and prizes awarded. Additional details regarding all three holiday events will be listed in the winter newsletter to be published in December

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 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. If you prefer to send an email, our address is: 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.

RPPD ACHIEVES 2ND RE-ACCREDITATION STATUS

On June 13, 2019, the Ridgefield Park Police Department was granted its second Re-Accreditation status at a hearing before the NJSACOP Accreditation review board in South Brunswick. Chief Rose, Capt. Gneiding and Sgt. Jensen appeared before the board.

Accreditation is a progressive and time proven method of assisting law enforcement agencies to calculate and improve their overall performance. Initial Accreditation status is valid for a three-year period after which time an independent, trained team of assessors arrives to conduct a two-day on-site review as well as a comprehensive review of every standard to verify that the applicable standards continue to be implemented. This program assists the RPPD in maintaining standards that reflect professional best practices in law enforcement.

The Ridgefield Park Police Department is one of only approximately 25 agencies in Bergen County and approximately 155 agencies state wide that are accredited agencies. Sergeant Arthur Jensen is the Department's Accreditation Manager and Sergeant Justin Tress is the Assistant Accreditation Manager.

Chief Edward Rose stated, "I am extremely proud of all our personnel for their continued efforts in preparing for these on-site assessments which are now conducted every three years." Chief Rose was particularly impressed with comments contained in the final report which included no issues:

"It was immediately clear to the assessment team that the agency has embraced the Accreditation process and continues to maintain the high standards of the program. It was also clear to the Assessment team that the agency as a whole from the newest patrol officer through the command staff is very knowledgeable about their agency, their policies and their community. To sum up our impression of the agency, Accreditation has become a culture of the agency."

Chief Rose and the Command Staff of the RPPD are committed to maintaining high professional standards and improving our relationships within the community while providing fair and impartial law enforcement services for everyone.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6th Annual Car Show

The Ridgefield Park PBA Local 86 will hold their 6th Annual Car Show on Sunday, September 29th from 8:30am-2:00pm. Located at 100 Challenger Rd, the event is free for spectators and \$20 to register a car. The first 150 registrants will receive a complimentary BX10 photo. There will be plaques and trophies in 25 different categories. There will also be DJ music and food trucks on hand. A portion of the proceeds benefits the NJSPBA Survivor & Welfare Fund and a Mega 50/50 raffle ticket winner will be drawn. Please contact Nick D'Alto or Ken Van Sadars for more information at 201-641-6400 and see any Officer to purchase a 50/50 raffle ticket for \$20. Rain date is Sunday, October 6th.

School is Open, DRIVE CAREFULLY

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.

For additional information or safety tips you can reference AAA at <http://exchange.aaa.com/safety/child-safety/schools-open-drive-carefully/>

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 cars. 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 up. Teach your children to never play in, under or around vehicles.

DRIVERS - YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALKS

@ YOUR LIBRARY

Holiday Cheer

The library will be offering a variety of activities that celebrate the holiday season. From “how to” programs, to a fabulous exhibit of unique wreaths, there will be something for everyone. Also, both the Holiday Dessert Social (12/3) and the Festival of the Wreaths Celebration (12/6) will offer the sharing of holiday joy with other Villagers. Be sure to add the library to your list of “must visits” for the holidays.

Book and Bake Sale

The Friends of the Library’s semi-annual Book and Bake Sale will be held 10/10 to 10/12! Books, CDs, DVDs, audio books, and home baked sweets at bargain prices with proceeds benefitting the Friends of the Library. The library will begin accepting donations of gently used materials for sale on 10/1. Please do not donate magazines, encyclopedias, outdated non-fiction, or materials that are in poor condition. Those interested in volunteering to help with the book sale should call the library at 201-641-0689.

Volunteer At Your Library!

The Friends of the Library is a group of Villagers, such as yourself, who meet once a month to discuss what they would like to see happen at your public library. Thanks to this group of library lovers, Villagers are able to enjoy a vast assortment of privileges, such as our Free Museum Passes, maker spaces, and free programs all at your library. In addition, the Friends volunteer during popular events, such as the Book and Bake Sales, Afternoon Tea, and the Festival of Wreaths. If you would like to join a dynamic group of like-minded individuals, please call the library at 201-641-0689. It’s good to have friends.

Program Highlights

A full listing of our programs appears at www.ridgefieldparkpubliclibrary.org

This is also where program registrations are accepted.

Pumpkin Palooza—Tues., 10/1, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Open to village children up to 6th grade, Enjoy decorating your own pumpkin followed by fun games for the whole family. BYOP (bring your own pumpkin). Registration is required.

Reading and Writing ESL Class—Tues., 10/1, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17, 10:00–11:00 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.

Basic ESL Class—Weds. 10/2, 10/16, 10/23, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 11/20, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 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.

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Movies for the Over 18 Crowd—Thurs., 10/3, 11/7, 12/5, 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.

College Prep—Thurs., 4:00–5:00 p.m.
10/3-*Series Overview:* Get help finding the colleges that are right for you and learn how to fill out applications

10/10-*Writing Your College Essay:* What makes a good college essay? Learn the do’s and don’ts of writing a stand-out essay.

10/17-*Applying for Financial Aid:* We’ll cover financial aid applications and finding scholarships to make college more affordable.

10/24-*Open Session:* Ask any final questions about topics that were not covered in the previous sessions.

Family Storytime—Sat., 10/5, 11/16, 1:00–2:00 p.m. Join us for Family Storytime! This program includes an interactive story, activity and craft that will help

foster a love of learning through STEM, Children of all ages are welcome, but note that the storytime will focus on Pre-K readiness. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

October topic: How to Catch a Dinosaur
November: Family Thanksgiving

Book Sale—Thurs., 10/10–Sat., 10/12 Friends of the Library semi-annual book and bake sale. Donations accepted beginning September, 2019.

YA Game Day—Tues., 10/15, 10/22, 10/29, 11/12, 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/10, 12/17 3:30–5:00 p.m Teens gather at the library for video games, board games, card games, snacks, and socializing. Bring a friend! For 7th grade and up.

Hand-Building Pottery—Thurs., 10/17, 7:00–8:30 p.m. Hands-on demonstration and help, plus all tools and materials, conveniently brought to your location. Sessions are lively and satisfying. The finished, fired and glazed product makes a great keepsake or gift. Develop the artist within you or lead your group in a constructive, positive experience.

ESL Conversation Class—Mon., 10/21, 10/28, 11/4, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2, 12/8, 12/16, 12/23 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.

Monster Chronicles—Wed. 10/23, 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18, 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*. For 7th grade and up. Registration is required.

Anime Daze—Thurs. 10/24, 11/21, 12/19, 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.

Coder Dojo—Thurs. 10/24, 11/21, 12/19, 7:00–9:00 p.m. Youngsters age 9 to 17 meet with mentors to explore the world of computer coding. Registration required.

Adult Video/Board Game Night—Fri., 10/25, 11/22, 12/13, 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—Mon. 10/28, 11/25, 12/30, 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.

October: *Little Darlings* by Melanie Golding

November: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

December: *Seven Days of Us* by Francesca Hornak

Halloween Party—Thurs., 10/31, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Come celebrate Halloween at the library! Enjoy spooky treats and a classic Halloween movie. Best costume wins a prize!

Wreath-Making for Kids—Sat., 11/9, 1:00 p.m. Come and create with us! Bring your own decorations and we will supply the wreath. Registration is required, limited space. Children must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver. Wreaths will be displayed for the Festival of the Wreaths on December 6. Children can pick up the wreaths after December 6 to display in their own homes.

Teen Game Tournament—Fri. 11/15, 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?!

Festival of the Wreaths—Mon., 11/18–Fri., 12/6 (exhibition). One of a kind, hand-crafted wreaths will be on display at the library from **Monday, 11/18** until **Friday, 12/6**. Make a donation and you may be able to take one of these beautiful wreaths to your holiday home. The Festival of Wreaths Celebration will be held from 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. on **Fri., 12/6**. Participants are asked to bring a favorite holiday finger food for sharing on the dessert buffet. Entertainment and a visit from Santa will be included.

Holiday Dessert Social—Tues., 12/03, 7:00 p.m. Village residents are invited to join us for our 13th annual celebration of the holiday season. Each family is asked to bring a favorite holiday treat for sharing. Don't miss this chance to hear a special reading of "Twas the Night before Christmas," visit with our special friend

from the North Pole and learn to play the dreidel game.

Holiday Craft—Sat., 12/7, 2:00 p.m. Come and create with us! Gingerbread houses are the sure fire way to welcome in the season. Registration is required, limited space. Recommended for children ages 2 to 6. Snack will be provided: Gingerbread cookies!

Christmas Traditions—Thurs., 12/12, 7:00–8:00 p.m. Kevin Woyce will use original photographs, vintage images, and live music to explore favorite Christmas Traditions, from the First Christmas to "A Christmas Carol," "White Christmas," and the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree. He will also explain how historical figures ranging from Saint Nicholas, Martin Luther, and Queen Victoria to Charles Dickens and Thomas Nast helped shape the way we celebrate the Christmas Season.

Ugly Christmas Sweater Party—Sat., 12/21, 1:00 p.m. Get into the holiday spirit by wearing your best, ugliest Christmas sweater! Holiday goodies will be served while we watch a movie. Ugliest sweater wins a prize!

Kid's Movie Matinee—Mon., 12/23, 12/30; Fri., 12/27, 1:00 p.m. Child friendly movies will be shown and popcorn provided but you are welcome to bring your own favorites.

GREEN TEAM

The Green Team gets involved in projects to help the sustainability/livability of our village. Projects range from the community garden, getting EPS Styrofoam recycling started at the recycling center, to partnering with the Ridgefield Park Arts Association in creating a Public Art Master Plan for the village.

If you are interested in what the Green Team does please come to one of our meetings. We meet the 4th Thursday of the month in the court room; 3rd floor of the municipal building. Meetings start at 7:30 or immediately after the Environmental Commission meeting.



FROM THE BUREAU OF FIRE PREVENTION

This year Fire Prevention Week is October 6th through October 12th. The Bureau, along with the Ridgefield Park Fire Department, will be going to each grammar school during the week. Kindergarten through Fourth Grade will meet our firefighters along with a visit to the fire trucks and in-class instruction on fire safety.

We will also be participating in Volunteer Night on Wednesday, October 16th. Come out for a fun night of activities and meet all the first responders of our Village.

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.

Residential Properties

Any residential building that is a two family or more and equipped with battery operated smoke detectors must have them switched out to sealed 10 year detectors as per the new Fire Code. The Bureau is also highly recommending that all single family homeowners replace your battery detectors as well.

From the Office of Emergency Management

As we prepare for the busy time of Hurricane Season hear in the North East, the Office of Emergency Management would like to remind all residents to be prepared for this and any emergencies that may occur. You should have a prepared Go Bag, filled with medications, water, non-perishable foods with a can opener and important identification papers. Don't forget your animals, they should have their own Go Bag with food, snacks, medication and veterinary papers. Go to <https://www.ready.gov/hurricane-toolkit> for helpful tips and information. We always hope for a quiet season, but you can never be too prepared.

Reverse 911

The Ridgefield Park Office of Emergency Management is excited to



announce that we will be instituting a new Reverse 911 system this Fall. All residents will be required to register or re-register to receive phone calls regarding emergencies, snow alerts, parking enforcements etc. A notice will be posted on the OEM Facebook page when the registration will be open to residents. There will also be a link on the Village Website and our CERT team and Police Department will be available at the Street Fair and at Volunteer Night to answer any questions and to help you with the registration process. Keep your eyes open for more information to come.

Halloween

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.

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.)

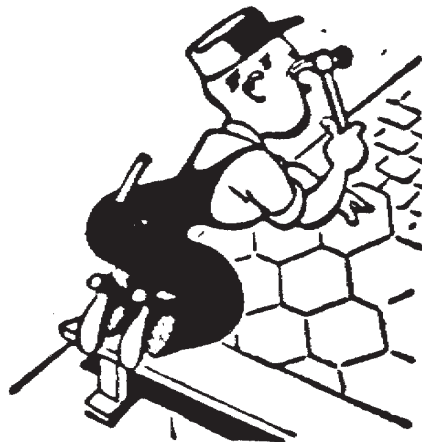
The installation of any door, window or garage door, in the same opening without altering the dimensions of the framing of the original opening. The repair of any non-structural member such as a partial railing or kitchen cabinet. The replacement or repair of any interior or exterior trim or molding.

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.



RIDGEFIELD PARK YOUTH CENTER

“It takes a Village...” and Ridgefield Park has always been a stellar example of this fact. I am very excited to be working with the Board of Commissioners as we move forward in opening the RP Youth Center. The Youth Center will be located on the top floor of the Civic Center on Park Street and will serve as a safe and supervised place for students of the village from 7th-12th grade to “hang out” after school. There will also be special programs for the teens throughout the year.

Outfitting such a program is a tremendous task. We are gearing up for an opening in the end of September/early October. There will be several information/sign-up sessions. Talk with your children- ask them what they would like to see at the Youth Center –things like homework help, crafts, video games, movies, board games, snacks.

Please watch for notices being sent home with your children, as well as announcements on FaceBook .

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

PREVENT USABLE GOODS FROM GOING INTO LANDFILLS!

We know 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. Drop off a mirror, a pot, a small table, a picture 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.



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.

For more information, visit us on the web @ www.ridgefieldpark.gov.

GARBAGE RECEPTACLES:



Garbage and recycling receptacles are susceptible to rodents and insects. Please keep garbage in a covered receptacle. Rinsing them with water and bleach will help to keep them clean and detract pests.

PLEASE NOTE: All trash containers must be 32 gallons or less.

The contents must be able to 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. Those cannot be emptied by one person safely. Oversized receptacles will be tagged. Repeated use of oversized cans will result in confiscation of receptacle. Bags cannot weigh more than 30 lbs. Do NOT fill your garbage can with rocks or dirt. Do not allow it to fill with water.

LEAF SEASON



LEAF SEASON begins on October 13th and ends on December 31st. Leaves must be placed in the street-along the curb line in front of your home on the alternate side parking day, when the sweeper is due to pass. 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.

RAIN WATER:



Catch basins are designed to slow the release of the rain water into the storm sewer system. Debris collects on top of the catch basin, preventing it from entering the system while also slowing the draining process. DPW crews clear this debris after heavy rainfalls. Report excessive accumulation of debris to the DPW. It is unlawful to put anything into the catch basin. This includes motor oil, cooking oil, pet waste or other debris.



If you are: **North of Mt. Vernon Street**

<p><u>Newspapers/Magazines</u></p> <p>Every Thursday EXCEPT 1st Thursday/TRASH Day</p>

Household garbage gets picked up on **Monday & Thursday**.

Recycling-(comingled) is picked up on **Wednesday**-place loose in garbage can-NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Cardboard-(corrugated) is picked up **on Wednesday**-flatten and tie with string or place inside one of the boxes.

You MUST call 201-440-4860 to schedule a **Wednesday** pick-up of the following:

Appliances-Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers, Hot Water Heaters, Air Conditioners, TVs, Computers, Printers, Tires, Metals, BBQs.

Newspapers/magazines get collected on **Thursdays**-NO Plastic Bags. Tie in bundles or place in a container

On the **1st (first) Thursday** of each month TRASH is collected in your area. Trash includes furniture, mattresses, clothing, books, dishes, toys, etc. NO APPLIANCES /TVs/ACs

Yard waste is picked up on **Tuesday**. NO PLASTIC bags! Use brown paper bags or place leaves and clippings in garbage can. Branches have to be tied in small 4 foot bundles.

Place items at curb no later than 6 a.m.

Call DPW @ 201-440-4860 with questions

If you are: **Mt. Vernon Street & South**

<p><u>Newspapers/Magazines</u></p> <p>Every Friday EXCEPT 1st Friday/TRASH Day</p>

Household garbage gets picked up on **Tuesday & Friday**.

Recycling-(comingled) is picked up on **Wednesday**-place loose in garbage can-NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Cardboard-(corrugated) is picked up on **Wednesday**-flatten and tie with string or place inside one of the boxes.

You MUST call 201-440-4860 to schedule a **Wednesday** pick-up of the following:

Appliances-Refrigerators, Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers, Hot Water Heaters, Air Conditioners, TVs, Computers, Printers, Tires, Metals, BBQs.

On the **1st (first) Friday** of each month TRASH is collected in your area. Trash includes furniture, mattresses, clothing, books, dishes, toys, etc. NO APPLIANCES /TVs/ACs

Yard waste is picked up on **Monday**. NO PLASTIC bags! Use brown paper bags or place leaves and clippings in garbage can. Branches have to be tied in small 4 foot bundles.

Place items at curb no later than 6 a.m.

Call DPW @ 201-440-4860 with questions

PAPER SHREDDING:

- The DPW will once again hold a paper shredding day on Saturday, October 12, 2019 at 24 Industrial Avenue from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. This FREE event will provide residents and businesses the opportunity to have their sensitive documents safely shredded and recycled. If you have any questions, please call the DPW at 201-440-4860.

POT HOLES:



Please report potholes to the DPW @ 201-440-4860

RECYCLING CENTER

The recycling center is located at 24 Industrial Avenue.

Residents can drop off recyclable items from 9 AM to 12PM (NOON), Monday through Saturday. A "REUSE" area is now available. Residents can leave serviceable items they no longer need, which may be of use to other residents. This is at the discretion of the recycling coordinator and limited to space constraints.

Only small amounts of trash will be accepted and proof of residency is required.

You may be required to show a valid building permit for construction materials.

NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES*NO CONTRACTOR WASTE PERMITTED*NO HOUSE CLEAN-OUTS

SCAVENGERS:



Scavenging is against the law. Village ordinance prohibits the removal of any curbside trash/recyclables by anyone other than a DPW employee or agent. The village receives revenue from some collections, which helps to offset disposal and equipment costs. Call the Police Department @ 201-641-6400, if you notice scavengers in your area.

SIDEWALKS:



Homeowners are responsible for the maintenance of sidewalks surrounding their property. Please keep sidewalks clear of debris. **Bushes also need to be trimmed to allow safe use of sidewalks.** Low hanging branches can be reported to the DPW @ 201-440-4860.

The ***Shade Tree Commission*** has a program to assist homeowners with sidewalks damaged by trees.

Shade Tree Commission can be contacted @ 201-641-4950 x 640.

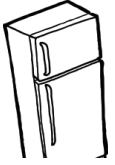
Meetings held the 2nd & 4th Monday @7:30 at the Municipal Building.

STREET SWEEPING



The street sweeper is scheduled to clean 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 street will be cleaned.

Alternate Side Parking is in effect whether the sweeper is out or not, so please move your vehicle as noted.



WHITE GOODS

WHITE GOODS and tires **must be called into the DPW** before they are placed at the curb.

WHITE GOODS include: Tires, Computers, Electronics, TVs, and Air Conditioners & Appliances.

Note: Refrigerators and freezers must have doors removed & unit should be laid flat to prevent injury. Call 201-440-4860, give address, place item at the curb Tuesday night for Wednesday pick-up. Failure to call will result in the item remaining at the curb and you may be subject to a fine.

YARD WASTE:



Yard waste consists of grass clippings, garden vines, leaves tree branches, shrubbery. **Stones, gravel, rocks, dirt and sod will NOT be picked up.** Yard waste must be put into a container or PAPER bag weighing no more than 35 lbs. Do NOT rake yard waste into the street. Tree branches and brush should be cut into 4 ft. lengths and tied into manageable bundles. Place yard waste on the curb the night before your collection day.

Stay Back 50 Feet!

Slow down and look for workers before you go around any truck.



The law REQUIRES motorists to reduce their speed and change lanes when approaching authorized vehicles- which now includes sanitation vehicles. The law also requires sanitation vehicles to display flashing amber lights while stopped on a street and while engaged in the collection of garbage or while moving between stops at a speed of 10 miles per hour or less.

PLEASE NOTE:

All trash containers must be 32 gallons or less!


- **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.**
- Do NOT allow it to fill with water.
- **Yard waste limit is 35 pounds per container.**
- Do NOT fill your garbage can with rocks or dirt.

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



SORT IT OUT

 **Unsure How to Dispose of a Particular Item?**
Call 201-440-4860

What you need to know about recycling and garbage collection



**mixed
recyclables**

Aerosol Cans

- Empty & rinse

Plastic Containers

- #1, #2 or #5 includes beverage, cleaning, and laundry containers

Aluminum Cans & Foil

- Empty & rinse/Discard food waste

Tin & Steel Cans

- Empty & rinse

Glass Bottle & Jars

- Empty & rinse



garbage

General household garbage

- Household garbage is picked up at the curb twice a week.
- Place garbage cans at the curb after 5pm the night before scheduled collection.
- Garbage cans must be removed the evening of collection.
- Trash cans should be 32 gallons or less and no more than 50 lbs.



**paper
recyclables**

Cardboard

- Flatten boxes –place at curb

Newspapers- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Magazines -NO PLASTIC BAGS!

- Place in a brown paper bag, loosely in a container or tied with string.

Books

- Remove covers, tie in bundles.



**drop off
recycle center**

OPEN → Monday-Saturday 9 am-1pm

Drop off appliances, batteries, bottles & cans, cardboard, cooking oil, electronics, furniture, lightbulbs, magazines, motor oil, newspapers, paint cans, EMPTY propane tanks, styrofoam, and yard waste.

- **Proof of residency required**
- NO Commercial or Rental vehicles permitted



**trash
pick-up**

Trash is picked up once a month

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

Trash includes bags of clothing, furniture, mattresses and toys

- NO HAZARDOUS waste materials will be picked up at the curb.
- Appliances, computers & tires will not be picked up on trash day.



**schedule
white goods**

“White Goods” are picked up at the curb on Wednesday mornings.

- “White Goods” consist of air conditioners, BBQs, computers, dishwashers, dryers, fans, FAX machines, freezers, hot water heaters metal items, monitors, printers, refrigerators, stoves, tires, TVs and washing machines.
- Call 201-440-4860 by Tuesday to schedule a pick-up



**leaves
yard waste**

Yard waste is picked up once a week

- Mt. Vernon & South-Mondays
- North of Mt Vernon-Tuesdays
- Place in cans or paper bags
- NO PLASTIC BAGS!

Leaves may be raked into the street during October, November & December.

- Place on the sweeper side of the street on the appropriate day



**reuse
recycle center**

Items in good condition & working order may be brought to the recycling center, where other residents can make use of them.

Keep in mind that storage is limited- we cannot accept upholstered furniture/mattresses/clothing.

ALL items accepted at the discretion of the *Recycling Attendant.*